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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, November 14, 2016, at 2 p.m.

Senate

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, You sustain us with Your unfailing love, for Your faithfulness reaches beyond the clouds. Use our Senators to accomplish Your purposes in our Nation and world. May they tackle the complex challenges of our times with the confidence that Your providence will prevail. Train them in the school of humility so that they will walk safely without stumbling. May they remember that humility precedes honor.

Lord, bless and protect America, making it a land that provides freedom's lamp to our world. Incline each citizen to hear Your words of truth and to apply his or her heart to knowledge.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BARASSO). The Democratic leader is recognized.

THE REPUBLICAN CONGRESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, in this Republican Congress—especially as we head out for yet another unearned recess—I feel compelled to comment on how Republicans have treated the President of the United States during the last 8 years.

History will look back and note that the Republicans in Congress treated President Obama with unprecedented disrespect. No one expected them to agree with everything that he did or tried to do, but Americans deserve better than the way Republicans behaved toward President Obama.

A day or two after President Obama was elected the first time, Republicans met here in Washington—all the Republican big names—and they came to two conclusions. No. 1, Obama would not be reelected. They failed on that one quite miserably. But No. 2, they would oppose everything that President Obama tried to do, and they have stuck by that without any question.

America would be better off with a responsible opposition party that found a way to make its differences with President Obama clear without treating him with such contempt. But, sadly, that is not what they saw from Republicans over the past 8 years.

President Obama is the first President to be denied a hearing on his budget. He is the first President to be denied a hearing on a Supreme Court nominee. President Obama is the first President to be asked to show his birth certificate. President Obama is the first President who has faced over 500 filibusters here in the Senate. In this Republican Senate, President Obama

will see fewer nominations confirmed than any President in many, many decades.

Republicans have not done their basic work of government, and they have not stood by their commitments to restore regular order or to pass a budget.

Republicans have spent their time doing everything in their power to discredit President Obama and empower Donald Trump. That is not a legacy that any Senator should be proud of.

I listened to public radio this morning, and the Arizona Republic, from the big city of Phoenix, right next to Nevada, for the first time in its history of more than 120 years—for the first time in its history—endorsed a Democratic Presidential nominee. It had never been done before. It is a Republican newspaper. I listened to the editor of the newspaper on the radio this morning saying they couldn't. Why? Because of Donald Trump.

The legacy of Donald Trump should not be anything the Republicans are proud of. The only thing Republicans have done this year was to prove that they are the party of Trump. They are the party of Trump. They say they are not the party of Trump, but they are. They would have us believe that Trump just fell out of the sky and somehow mysteriously became the nominee of the party, but that is not the way it is.

Everything he has said, stood for, done in this bizarre campaign he has run has come, filtered up, from what has gone on here in the Republican Senate—disagreeing with everything—anything—President Obama wanted.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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They filibustered things they agreed with just to slow things down.

Trump is no anomaly. He is the monster the Republicans built. He is their Frankenstein monster. They own him.

All we have to do to see that the Republicans are the party of Trump is to look at the way they have treated President Obama. He is a good man, a good family man. He has a great education. He is a good communicator. He has written two best-selling books. Everyone knows he can communicate orally. He deserved better than the unprecedented disrespect the Republicans have shown toward him.

America, which twice elected Barack Obama to be its President, deserves better—much, much better. It is a shame what has not been done, and it is a shame what has been done.

Mr. President, I note that my friend the Republican leader is not here. I will suggest the absence of a quorum, and the Chair can announce the business of the day following his appearance here.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 954

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 954) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt from the individual mandate certain individuals who had coverage under a terminated qualified health plan funded through the Consumer Operated and Oriented Plan (CO-OP) program.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be placed on the calendar.

TRIBUTE TO DALLAS POLICE CHIEF DAVID BROWN

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I want to start today by offering a word of gratitude to retiring Dallas police chief David Brown, who will retire from his long career of public service this Tuesday.

Chief Brown became the face of a terrible tragedy that occurred in Texas a few weeks ago when five police officers were gunned down in cold blood. Frankly, I had many colleagues and other people whom I have run into ask me about him because he made such a positive impression with his calmness under difficult circumstances and his leadership qualities.

The incident occurred last July when 12 law enforcement officers were shot, and 5 were killed. I remember attending the memorial service with President Obama and the First Lady, as well as President George W. Bush and Laura Bush, and the chief spoke then along with Mayor Rawlings. I can't tell you how grateful I am that, at a time when people think Washington has lost its way, we still have strong, articulate, compassionate leaders like Chief Brown and Mayor Rawlings.

Chief Brown is retiring after 33 years of service to the Dallas police force. As a result of the attention he got from all of the publicity surrounding this terrible tragedy in July, the chief became a little bit of a folk hero, I guess, and people began to listen to what he had to say about a lot of different things. One of the things he would like to say is "Dallas loves." He made that a bit of a rallying cry following the attack. His actions in the aftermath of that tragedy certainly demonstrated his belief in that statement.

Of course, while many Americans know Chief Brown from his leadership during the shooting in July, Dallasites have benefited from his service for a long time. He grew up in Oak Cliff in southwest Dallas and has been on the Dallas police force for the last 33 years. I know the people of Dallas will miss his leadership and hearing him sing a little Stevie Wonder from time to time.

I want to express my gratitude and thanks to Chief Brown and wish him well in the next chapter of his life.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION AND SENATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, yesterday we finally were able to move legislation forward that would keep the lights on here in Washington, at least until December, and provided very important relief that I want to emphasize.

There is flood relief for States like Texas, but not just Texas—Maryland, West Virginia, Louisiana, and Iowa, all of which will benefit from the flood relief that is provided for in this continuing resolution that was passed yesterday and was passed by the House as well.

More importantly, perhaps, is the support for veterans programs and military construction. It is important that we pass legislation to meet our responsibilities to support our men and women in uniform wherever they may be serving, whether here at home or abroad.

Thanks to the leadership of the Senator from Ohio and the Senator from New Hampshire, we passed legislation that will provide additional funds to deal with the opioid epidemic that is ravaging many parts of our country. As a medical doctor, the Presiding Officer knows that people unfortunately get hooked on opioid prescription drugs. Frequently, when that runs out, they often opt for cheaper, more plentiful heroin, which, when mixed with other ingredients such as fentanyl, makes it even more deadly and more likely that they will overdose with the use of this heroin laced with fentanyl. We have provided additional funds in this continuing resolution to deal with that.

Finally, but very significantly, we also were able to break the impasse over funding for Zika. As we have come to learn, Zika is a mosquito-borne virus that has the potential of causing terrible birth defects in children. We have seen pictures of children with shrunken skulls from the microcephaly caused by this terrible mosquito-borne virus.

We had been trying since last May to get that Zika funding done. For some reason, even though the amount of the funding, \$1.1 billion, was agreed upon, our Democratic colleagues wouldn't take yes for an answer. Finally, yesterday, they decided to give up their filibuster and allow this legislation and this important funding to be done. My point is that we could have done this a long time ago. In fact, we wouldn't have had to pass the continuing resolution taking us over to December—just 10 weeks from now, when we will have to start all over again—if it weren't for the obstructionism and filibustering of our Democratic colleagues.

Of course, the cause of this is a fight over Federal spending. We know there are caps on discretionary spending, and many of our Members, myself included, have become very concerned in this very dangerous world we live in that we have shortchanged our military and our national security support. So in order to get additional spending for our troops abroad and at home and to make sure that we are prepared for the next threat to our country, we increased spending for the Department of Defense, but the costs of doing that were increases in nondefense discretionary spending. Thus we get back into the same old fight, which unfortunately has left us \$19 trillion in debt, where spending is simply out of control.

That is the reason we ended up in this posture. It is highly regrettable.

Nobody would have chosen this—certainly I wouldn't have—as a first option. Now we are going to be confronted with the responsibility in December of passing appropriations bills that will take us through the next year, through the end of the fiscal year. So we have this resolution taken care of. It is behind us now, and that looms large ahead of us.

I want to mention some of the good work being done in Texas by folks like the Harris County Mosquito & Vector Control unit. A few weeks ago, I had a chance to go on the rounds with them and set some of the traps for various mosquitoes.

Actually, I got this idea from listening to Mike Rowe, who has this “Dirty Jobs” series, and I noticed one of them happened to be mosquito control. It occurred to me that maybe there was something for me to learn about how local leaders like those in Harris County identify these mosquitoes that bear this Zika virus and how they deal with it. I got a firsthand look at how much work it takes for our local public health officials to protect our communities from mosquito-borne viruses.

It is not just about Zika. It is also about the West Nile virus, which unfortunately has taken the lives of some Texans in the past, as well as other diseases such as dengue fever. The Presiding Officer knows all of them.

Our folks at the local level do have their work cut out for them. They trap these mosquitoes every day to test them for the virus, and they spend a lot of time educating the public about how to better protect themselves. I walked around with them, and they pointed out places where water has been pooled in old tires or in swimming pools in the backyard or perhaps bird-baths or other places where mosquitoes, if they are given an opportunity, will simply breed.

This is one way, by being better educated, that people can help protect themselves from these mosquito-borne viruses by eliminating the breeding ground for these mosquitoes. If you are a woman of childbearing age, being able to dress appropriately, spray yourself with mosquito repellent, and otherwise help yourself while we are waiting for the Federal Government to live up to its responsibility to provide the funds, which now we have finally done, would help.

It became clear to me in our visits to Houston that our local officials need more help. More specifically, what they need is the research that will lead to a vaccine. We went through this experience in another context with the Ebola virus not that long ago. It is important that our scientists and researchers develop a vaccine to particularly protect women of childbearing age from the consequences of the Zika virus.

We need a whole government response. We finally got one yesterday, one that deploys local, State, and Federal authorities.

The funding bill we passed yesterday outlines a way forward for the Federal Government to do its part that will provide funding for communities in Texas and throughout the country. They are already working diligently to safeguard folks against the virus. As I mentioned, it will go a long way in helping local and State officials with prevention efforts and even working to create a vaccine. I am pleased we finally were able to get that done and overcome the impasse created by objections, obstructions, and filibusters of our friends across the aisle.

Beyond getting this funding for the Zika research and prevention done, I wish to identify a few other things that we have been able to accomplish. As I came to the floor and said a couple of days ago, the senior Senator from Montana, who happens to head up the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, was caught basically telling the truth when he said that one of the things they are depending on is a narrative to help Democrats in the selection, this false narrative that under the Republican majority, under Republican leadership, we simply hadn't been getting many things done.

We have been doing a lot to take care of the Nation's business during the events of the last 2 days, including the Water Resources Development Act that passed with 95 votes, which includes additional funding for Flint, MI, and their lead pipe water challenges.

I mentioned the opioid crisis and heroin crisis. Recently, we passed a bill called the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act by more than 90 votes. As I mentioned, the junior Senators from Ohio and New Hampshire have provided such great leadership in that area.

We also passed other reforms for chemical safety, the so-called TSCA bill, which provides companies with regulatory certainty so they can continue to create products Americans use every day. This bill proves we can responsibly protect the environment at the same time we are growing our economy. This legislation passed the Senate by a voice vote and received more than 400 votes in the House.

We also passed legislation to impose stronger sanctions on North Korea in February. It sailed through this Chamber with one “no” vote.

Of course, we also took care of intractable problems that we had trouble getting any traction on for a long time, major reform bills such as the Energy Policy Modernization Act to help bring our Nation's energy infrastructure up-to-date, as well as to expedite the permitting of liquefied natural gas exports, which the Presiding Officer has worked on a lot. I was just at Sabine Pass. Cheniere has a huge export facility for natural gas. Golden Pass and others are in the process of trying to get their permits, but they have been waiting a long time. This legislation will provide a shot clock, which will hopefully expedite that process. The

energy we have been able to produce in this country is a great natural resource for the United States and a great economic engine. To make it available to our friends and allies around the world is very important. The Energy Policy Modernization Act as well as lifting the ban on crude oil, which we did last December, have been very important steps.

I was discussing with the senior Senator from Tennessee, Mr. ALEXANDER, chairman of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, the important work we did reforming the bill known as No Child Left Behind with the Every Student Succeeds Act. This legislation was very important because many people had the impression that Washington had simply taken control of our K-12 education system. Under his skillful leadership, working with Senator MURRAY in the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, they were able to write a piece of legislation that passed with overwhelming bipartisan margins that would devolve the control of K-12 education back to the States, local school districts, parents, and teachers. It literally removed the common core mandate that so many people had chafed under.

We also finally have passed a Medicare payment reform system that had long plagued our medical community. I know many physicians in Texas told me they simply would not be able to take any more Medicare patients—which of course are our senior citizens—because the Federal Government kept cutting their payment rate and the uncertainty created by that. We finally fixed that on a bipartisan basis.

Under the new majority in this Congress, we also saw President Obama sign other important laws, such as the Freedom of Information Improvement Act, a bill that will make our government more transparent and more accountable to the people we serve. By an overwhelming 99-to-1 vote, we passed the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, a bill that will help victims of human trafficking recover.

We will support law enforcement in their fight against active shooters by passing and signing into law the POLICE Act, legislation that allows existing grant programs to be used for police training to deal with active shooter situations. I have traveled all around Texas with local police departments in both urban and rural areas, and they find this training very useful and timely.

Unfortunately, it is necessary, in times such as these where we have had to learn from hard experience—if an active shooter is loose, they will continue to kill and people will continue to die unless the police can crash that site, stop the shooter, and then rescue, with emergency medical people, the people who are injured.

By all accounts, I have to say the Senate, under Republican leadership, with cooperation from our Democratic

colleagues—because of course nothing happens around here unless it is bipartisan. That is the way this place is constructed. That is the way the Constitution is written. I am grateful that under the leadership and steady hand of Majority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL of Kentucky, we have gotten back to work and taken care of the country's business.

Of course, we still have disagreements like we had over spending bills that led up to this continuing resolution, and in the lameduck it will leave us with having to deal with the long-term spending bills this December, but I simply want to make the point that leadership matters. Under the leadership of Senator MCCONNELL, our committees are now actively producing legislation on a bipartisan basis that is then available to the majority leader to bring to the floor for us to debate, for Senators to offer suggestions for improvement by way of amendment and allow everybody to participate in that process to vote on the legislation and then bring it to the President's desk.

I hope we can continue to put sound policy over the sort of partisan politics that left us in the uncomfortable and unenviable position we were in yesterday, trying to meet a deadline to keep the government up and running. With a little cooperation and a little elevation of responsibility to our constituents and the people we serve, rather than partisan politics, I think we can continue to do better.

Mr. President, with that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

(The remarks of Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. LANKFORD, and Ms. COLLINS pertaining to the introduction of S. 3464 and S. 3462 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. LANKFORD. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TILLIS). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, before the Senate adjourns this afternoon, I want to remind my colleagues that National Domestic Violence Awareness Month begins on Saturday.

Throughout the month of October, we are called to increase public awareness and understanding of domestic violence. As noted by the National Network to End Domestic Violence, domestic violence thrives when we remain silent. That is why I recently introduced a resolution to commemorate National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

As stated in our resolution, Congress should continue to raise awareness of domestic violence in the United States. We also should pledge our continued support for programs designed to assist survivors, hold perpetrators accountable, and bring an end to domestic violence.

I thank my colleagues, Senators LEAHY, AYOTTE, and KLOBUCHAR, for joining as original cosponsors of the resolution. It passed the Senate unanimously on September 15. Through the enactment of other key measures—such as the Violence Against Women Act, the Family Violence Prevention Act, and the Victims of Crime Act—Congress has made support to survivors a national priority for over three decades. Through the enactment of laws criminalizing domestic violence at the State and local level, we also have sent a strong signal to abusers that domestic violence is not a private matter, but a public issue.

We have come a long way, but our work is far from complete. Even now, domestic violence affects more than 12 million people each year in the United States, including women, men, and children of every age and socioeconomic status. Research also suggests that young women between the ages of 18 and 34 are particularly vulnerable to domestic violence. The negative effects of this crime go far beyond the confines of individual households. It impacts our communities when the victims of domestic violence are forced to choose between continued abuse or financial insecurity and even homelessness. It impacts our economy when the victims of this crime miss work and school.

Thankfully, there are many individuals and organizations in Iowa and elsewhere around the country that work around the clock to meet the needs of victims. They include the crisis hotline personnel who provide peer-to-peer support or counseling to victims across the Nation. They include the staff and volunteers at shelters, who provide safe havens for victims fleeing abuse in communities. They include the advocates who champion prevention initiatives and resources for victims at the State and Federal levels. Last, but certainly not least, they include the first responders who compassionately respond to victims of domestic violence in their most vulnerable moments. These men and women put their lives at risk when responding to domestic abuse calls, which can be among the most volatile they will experience. We thank them for their never-ending service.

Mr. President, once again, I thank my colleagues for passing this resolution unanimously. It is important that we continue to support the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

REMEMBERING SHIMON PERES

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute and reflect on the legacy of Israeli leader, two-time Prime Minister, and ninth President of Israel Shimon Peres. I extend my condolences to the family of Shimon Peres and to the people of Israel.

Today you have lost a towering leader who leaves behind a legacy of moral clarity and hope. I had the opportunity to meet Shimon Peres on numerous occasions. After each meeting, I walked away inspired and hopeful, having benefited immensely from his insight and perspective on a number of difficult global issues.

Shimon Peres was not only one of the world's greatest statesmen but an ardent and committed advocate for peace. Given Shimon Peres's personal history and journey, it is truly remarkable that in his final years he refused to give in to cynicism and acrimony.

As an immigrant to Israel, he was part of the grand project that cultivated a thriving country and society. As a warrior, he made sure that Israel was always ready and able to defend itself. As a politician, he contributed to the lively and robust democracy that the Israelis enjoy today, but he never shied away from reaching out across lines if he thought that was in Israel's interest.

As a friend to the United States, his legacy is the unshakeable bond between our two countries, our governments, and our people. As a leader, he showed the world that extending a hand and daring to work for peace is worthy and just. He shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 1994 with Yasser Arafat and Yitzhak Rabin. The legacy of the Oslo Accords remains active today.

We must continue to work toward a two-state solution, a Jewish and Palestinian state living side by side in peace and security. Shimon Peres's legacy is the patient, difficult, taxing, and necessary work of negotiations. It is only through direct negotiations and direct contact between the two sides, Israelis and Palestinians, that we can achieve this objective.

Shimon Peres leaves behind incredibly important initiatives, such as the Peres Center for Peace. This is a peace-

building organization that seeks to foster personal and professional interactions between Israelis and Palestinians, Arabs and Jews.

I want to pay tribute to Shimon Peres's morality and courage. He called for reconciliation in times of strife. We can fill his legacy by turning this sober and sad occasion to a call for direct talks between the Israelis and Palestinians, for boldness and courage to return to the negotiating table to fulfill the dream and meet the expectations of so many living in this part of the world who are so desperately seeking peace.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASIDY). The Senator from Michigan.

NASA

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, today I rise to speak about NASA and the human exploration program. NASA and our industry partners have made incredible progress in space exploration, and we are now closer to human missions into deep space than we have been since we last left the Moon nearly 45 years ago. We have set a lofty but achievable goal. We are going to Mars, and we are building the rockets and infrastructure to get us there.

Achieving a complex, long-term goal can be challenging for a government, and this is especially true during an administration transition. But we can't let up on the development if we are going to put a human on Mars. That is why I, along with a number of my Commerce Committee colleagues, recently introduced the NASA Transition Authorization Act of 2016. This bipartisan bill will ensure that NASA maintains a continuity of purpose over the next year. The NASA Transition Authorization Act will give NASA the stability needed to keep NASA's important missions moving through 2017. It is not just important to the agency, it is something that is particularly important to the thousands of small- and medium-sized businesses across the country where dedicated men and women are working hard to move our space program forward.

With this bill, we are sending a strong message to companies like Futuramic Tool & Engineering in Michigan. They are so proud to help build the rockets that will take us to Mars, and all of us in the Congress must stand solidly behind their efforts.

A few weeks ago, I visited the Kennedy Space Center to witness the launch of the OSIRIS-REx spacecraft, a science mission that will take a sample from an asteroid and return that sample back to Earth. I saw the launch infrastructure taking shape for the massive SLS rocket and the assembly and testing of the Orion crew capsule that will launch in 2018 aboard SLS. I also saw amazing work by Boeing, SpaceX, and the United Launch Alliance on their rockets and spacecraft, which will start sending U.S. astronauts to

the International Space Station in a couple of years. When you see the scale of these gigantic structures and the intricacy of the machinery, you really get a sense of how much power, energy, and precision it takes to conduct these very ambitious missions, and you see why we can't stop this momentum toward space. We are going boldly, and we are going to stay, and this legislation makes that point very clear.

Importantly, this bill authorizes the entire agency, reaffirming that NASA is a multimission agency with important missions in space technology, aeronautics, exploration, and education.

I am particularly pleased that the legislation underscores the importance of NASA's science programs. Investing in NASA's science mission leads to research and development of new technologies. These technologies increase the competitiveness of our space program and at the same time shed light on ways we can protect and improve our planet Earth. I cannot overstate the importance of this work to our Nation, our planet, and to humanity as a whole. I agree with many in the scientific community who believe we need to increase our investments in NASA science missions, aeronautics, and other areas of the agency, and I will work to improve these programs more comprehensively in future legislation.

I am also pleased that parts of my bill reinforces NASA's ongoing efforts to educate the scientists and astronauts of the future. Earlier this year, Senator GARDNER and I introduced legislation to promote American competitiveness through investments in research and STEM education. NASA's inspiring exploration and science missions make the agency uniquely positioned to engage students in STEM subjects. I witnessed this firsthand when former astronaut Charlie Precourt joined me in speaking to a group of Michigan students last year. I can assure you the students were much more excited to talk to a former astronaut than a U.S. Senator.

It is also my hope that we can move forward and pass the space weather bill that Senator GARDNER and I introduced earlier this year. This legislation assigns roles to the various Federal agencies involved with space weather and improves the research and observations needed to better predict space weather events. The space weather bill, together with the NASA bill, represents a strong and positive bipartisan consensus for our space program, including space science. Heliophysics, or the study of the Sun, is a critical component of NASA's science research mission and has major implications for life here on Earth.

I was also pleased to see that NASA's new Associate Administrator for Science, University of Michigan professor Dr. Thomas Zurbuchen, has a strong background in space weather. I wish him good luck in his new role.

I wish to congratulate Senator CRUZ, Chairman THUNE, Ranking Member

NELSON, Senator WICKER, Senator RUBIO, Senator UDALL, and Senator CANTWELL for their hard work on the NASA transition act, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that NASA has a steady path forward to keep making groundbreaking discoveries and inspiring Americans for years to come.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

AMENDING THE GULLAH/GEECHEE CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 573, H.R. 3004.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3004) to amend the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Act to extend the authorization for the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 3004) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

BATHROOMS ACCESSIBLE IN EVERY SITUATION ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5147, which was received from the House.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5147) to amend title 40, United States Code, to require restrooms in public buildings to be equipped with baby changing facilities.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 5147) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

CLARIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF ELECTRONIC SALES OF LIVESTOCK ACT OF 2016

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5883, which was received from the House.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5883) to amend the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921, to clarify the duties relating to services furnished in connection with the buying or selling of livestock in commerce through online, video, or other electronic methods, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 5883) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

RANDY D. DOUB UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Environment and Public Works Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3937 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3937) to designate the building utilized as a United States courthouse located at 150 Reade Circle in Greenville, North Carolina, as the "Randy D. Doub United States Courthouse."

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 3937) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Rules Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 527.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 527) recognizing the 75th anniversary of the opening of the National Gallery of Art.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 527) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of July 12, 2016, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

SUPPORTING LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 578, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 578) supporting Lights On Afterschool, a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 20, 2016.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that 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. 578) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of September 26, 2016, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 591, S. Res. 592, S. Res. 593, and S. Res. 594.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

S. RES. 593

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today as the chairman of the Senate Aging Committee to speak about the bipartisan resolution I have introduced

with Senator MCCASKILL designating September 22, 2016—the first day of the fall season—as National Falls Prevention Awareness Day. The purpose of this designation is to better educate seniors, families, and caregivers—as well as government and civic organizations—about the practices, programs, and policies that can be taken to reduce the risk of falls.

Falls are the leading cause of both fatal and nonfatal injuries among older adults. Older adults are the fastest-growing segment of the U.S. population, and the number is projected to increase from 46.2 million in 2014 to 82.3 million in 2040. As more Americans age, falls will become even more numerous and costly than they are now.

In 2014, approximately 2.8 million older Americans were treated in emergency rooms after falling, and more than 800,000 were subsequently hospitalized. Tragically, more than 27,000 of them died as a result of their injuries.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention puts these staggering statistics in a context that really brings the problem home: one out of every three seniors falls each year; every 13 seconds, a senior is treated in an emergency room for a fall; every 20 seconds, a senior dies from a fall.

In addition to the human toll, these falls generate enormous economic costs. The annual total direct medical cost of fall-related injuries for older adults is approximately \$34 billion. As more members of the baby boomer generation reach retirement age, these costs could nearly double within the next 5 years.

Beyond the pain, suffering, and expense, falls can affect a senior's ability to live independently and can lead to a compromised quality of life, and thus to isolation and depression. Many people who fall, even if they are not injured, can develop a fear of falling. This may cause them to limit their activities, resulting in reduced mobility and physical activity.

As a Senator representing the state with the oldest median age, I am especially concerned that Maine is eighth in the Nation in the percentage of seniors who suffer falls. Seniors in Maine who fall experience an average medical cost of approximately \$16,000, according to the most recent statistics available. Fortunately, there are many organizations throughout Maine, including several Area Agencies on Aging, which provide important fall awareness programs, such as risk assessments, and exercise and balance programs.

Our resolution urges relevant Federal, State, and local organizations to work to help educate seniors about ways they can reduce the risks that may result from a fall, including injury and even death. The resolution also recognizes that evidence-based programs reduce falls by utilizing cost-effective strategies, such as exercise programs, medication management, vision improvement, reduction of home hazards, and fall prevention education.

Family members and other caregivers can also help seniors evaluate their homes for fall-inducing hazards and modify their living space with adequate lighting and assistive devices, such as grab bars in the shower or tub, to help ensure a safe environment.

There are more steps we can take. The costs of even minor modifications like grab bars and hand rails can add up quickly, while more expensive projects such as widening doorways or installing a ramp are financially unrealistic for far too many seniors. Several existing Federal programs can help seniors make these needed modifications to their homes, but few seniors are aware of them. To address this issue, I have joined Senators KING and AYOTTE in sponsoring S. 3230, the Senior Home Modification Assistance Initiative Act, which would improve awareness and better coordinate existing Federal programs.

Falling is not an inevitable consequence of aging. Practical lifestyle adjustments, evidence-based prevention programs, community partnerships, and continued research are among the tools available to reduce falls. Fall-related injuries have a devastating impact on the lives of our seniors, their families, and their communities. Our goal is to unite professionals, older adults, caregivers, and family members so that they might all play a part in raising awareness and preventing falls.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

JUSTICE AGAINST SPONSORS OF TERRORISM BILL

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, I rise today to speak briefly about what occurred yesterday on the Senate floor when the Senate and the House of Representatives overrode a veto in order to ensure that the victims of 9/11 had an outlet, if you will, to try to seek justice and compensation. It was not as satisfactory as most in this body would hope. I am hopeful that over the course of time between now and the lameduck, or shortly thereafter, we will have a way to rectify some of the issues that concern us.

I don't think many Members are aware of that fact that Senator CARDIN and I attempted throughout the last weekend to set up a meeting with the White House to go over options that could, in fact, be more beneficial to our country and, at the same time, give some justice to the people of 9/11. I think many people here know that there were Saudi officials here seeking to come up with some option that might work better than the option that we all opted for, with none other available, yesterday.

We were unable to get the President to convene a meeting that we had hoped would include the Secretary of State—we had a couple of conversations with Secretary Kerry and I also had conversations directly with the White House—and to set up a meeting between the President and Secretary Kerry, and, of course, Leader McCONNELL, Leader REID, Senator CARDIN, and myself, as well as the two major sponsors of the bill. The purpose was to see if the issues with the bill that we voted on yesterday could be resolved via a better route. Was there another option that we could consider, and could we develop a timeframe where that could be considered to take us to an improvement over where we were yesterday?

For reasons that still are unknown to me, that was not achievable. There was no desire whatsoever to sit down and meet. I am unaware of any meetings that took place to try to resolve this issue. My friends on the other side of the aisle mentioned that they did have a letter read to them at lunch one day regarding the President's views. But now we have passed a bill. In fact, the victims of 9/11, whom many of us have met with, now have an outlet to try to seek justice. I think there was a desire—as was written yesterday in a letter, which many Senators here signed and many others have discussed—to amend what occurred yesterday to put us in a better place.

So it is my hope, now that we have a piece of legislation that has become law, that maybe the executive branch—which, by the way, we tried to get to engage in this issue over this entire last year—will sit down with us and figure out an option that might work a little better than what passed yesterday on the floor. That hasn't occurred. There just has been no engagement. Even at the last minute, with the first veto override facing the administration, there was just an unwillingness to sit down and discuss routes that can take us to a better place.

So I know there is a desire on the House side, I know there is a desire in this body, as was widely expressed yesterday, and I know there is a desire—no doubt—for the victims to be able to get answers to the questions they have had and to seek, in their minds, justice. There is a desire for that. But there is also a desire to do so in a manner that will not possibly undermine other equities that the U.S. Government and our people have.

So I am hopeful that over the course of the next 6 weeks—last night I had a discussion with a Saudi official whom I know is desirous of sitting down and pursuing that, as they have been over the course of the last week—now that this has become law, the administration will be willing to do the same. My sense is that, with some of the comments that are going to be made publicly and some of the back-and-forth that will occur over the next 6 weeks, I am hopeful that the major sponsors of this bill, who are leaders in this body, will be willing to do that so that we will be able to create some alterations that, unfortunately, were not available to us yesterday to cause this piece of legislation to better serve U.S. national interests.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FISCHER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG AND HEROIN EPIDEMIC

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I am on the floor to talk about an epidemic that has gripped my State of Ohio and affected every single State in this body in every community we represent; that is, the issue of prescription drug, heroin, and now fentanyl and other synthetic heroin addiction.

This epidemic is affecting our communities in fundamental ways. It is breaking families apart. It is causing crime. In fact, in my home State of Ohio, as I talk to law enforcement officials in every county, they tell me it is the top reason for crime and the growth of crime.

It is affecting our first responders. When I go to a firehouse now and talk to firefighters about what they do with most of their time, they tell me they do a lot more heroin runs than fire runs, and thank God because they are out there saving lives every single day. They now carry Narcan with them, which is a form of naloxone, which is a miracle drug that reduces the dangers because it reverses the effects of an overdose. They have provided Narcan 19,000 times in the last year in Ohio. This is something that is out there in all of our communities.

Sometimes there is a huge spike in these overdoses. Sadly, we had that this week in Columbus, OH, when in the space of 24 hours we had 27 overdoses. I have been working with the county coroner's office and with the health department in the city of Columbus to try to help them determine what the cause of this spike in overdoses was. It appears to be another case where there is a particularly dangerous batch of heroin, and it probably

has something to do with these synthetic heroins that are coming into the States and our country—fentanyl, carfentanil, or U-4. A few flakes of carfentanil ingested can kill you. This is very dangerous stuff. I wish I could say it is getting better, but I fear it is only getting worse.

I have been on this floor talking about this issue every single week since February. During that time period, we passed, by a vote of 92 to 2, legislation to help address this issue. A vote of 92 to 2 is a rare vote in this place. Because Republicans and Democrats came together on this issue, we were able to pass something that will help. We spent 3½ years working on it—my colleague Senator WHITEHOUSE and I and others were very involved—to help ensure that we can get better prevention and education efforts out there; do more in terms of treatment for people who are addicted and need to get help; provide longer term recovery, which we believe is essential to successful treatment because all the facts indicate that unless you have the longer term recovery, the relapse rate is very high.

We also help our police officers, our firefighters, and other first responders by saying: Let's get them the Narcan they need and the training they need to be able to save those lives.

Very specifically, it also helps our veterans and pregnant women who are addicted and these babies born with dependency. Some very specific programs are going to help to turn the tide.

Overall, I would say the legislation is important because for the first time ever not only is Congress supporting recovery, as we talked about, but we are also finally addressing this issue as it needs to be addressed, as a public health issue, saying that this is not a question of someone making a bad moral choice as much as it is a disease. It needs to be treated like a disease. Until addiction is treated as a disease, I think it is going to be very difficult for us to turn this tide and begin to save these lives.

In my home State, it has been the top cause of accidental death, surpassing car accidents, probably since 2007. Sadly, that is now the case in many States around the country. Nationally, we believe it is the No. 1 cause of accidental death. Think about that.

It is a situation that affects every State and our entire country, so in the legislation that was passed yesterday, called the continuing resolution, which is basically just a bill to continue the funding of government through December—it is a short-term spending bill—we were able to include \$37 million to help implement this legislation, the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act. I am very proud of that. I am very pleased that this Senate and the House were willing to go along with that.

I know it is unusual because typically in a continuing resolution, you

simply fund the previous year's funding and there are no new programs, no new starts. Frankly, the administration did not recommend a new start in this instance, although they did recommend an anomaly or an addition to the CR in 27 other areas. We had to rely on Members in the House and the Senate to do the right thing, to make an exception, and to include this funding. I thank my colleagues for doing that.

I think it is critical that we begin to fully fund this Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act—otherwise known as CARA—and do it now and not wait until the regular appropriations process in December.

That \$37 million will help us stand up some programs. In particular, there are four I want to mention this morning. One is the community-based coalition prevention grants, the second is the grants for access to overdose treatment, the third is the recovery grants, and the fourth is the State incentive grants for a comprehensive response to this opioid issue. In other words, we are dealing with prevention, education, treatment, and recovery, helping the States be more engaged and involved in this issue so the Federal Government can be a better partner.

On the prevention side, what it does is start to tell people what is going on. We are doing that here today on the floor but specifically to let people know what this connection is between prescription drugs, prescription drug overprescribing and abuse, and heroin and fentanyl. The reason I think this is very important is that probably four out of five heroin addicts in Ohio started with prescription drugs. Many people don't know that. When they are prescribed a prescription drug for pain relief, sometimes they don't realize the potential for addiction.

To the young people who are listening today, you need to know this. You need to understand this. Everybody does. Again, if we are going to turn the tide, we have to change the way we deal with it to ensure that people are getting the education they need to avoid getting into the funnel of addiction in the first place.

This program called CARA also increases the availability naloxone, or Narcan, which is very important. It has long-term recovery grants, including grants for recovery colleges, recovery universities. In other words, there are programs within colleges and universities to help on recovery because unfortunately we are finding that many of our students need these recovery programs as they are trying to work through their addiction. It also supports recovery high schools and increases eligibility for alternatives to incarceration—drug courts and veterans courts. So instead of putting people in jail for using these drugs, we say: Let's do a diversion. If you stay sober and clean, you will stay out of jail and we will get you into treatment. As I have seen around our State, these programs can help people get back on their feet.

These are critical changes. The experts who helped us write this legislation over the last 3½ years, who came here to Washington, where we held four different conferences on this issue and brought in the best minds, the best practices, tell us they believe this legislation will make a difference in our communities day to day.

Of course, it is up to the administration to actually implement this aggressively. Congress has done its work to pass these new programs, to pass this legislation. Now it shifts over to the executive branch to administer it. There is no excuse that the funding is not there because we were able to provide this funding. It is an exception to a normal CR, but we got the \$37 million of funding in to begin to get these programs up and running so we can begin to turn the tide on this addiction epidemic.

There are some aspects of the legislation that are already working that don't require a new program or setting up a new program. For instance, nurse practitioners and physician's assistants are now permitted to be involved in administering Suboxone at treatment clinics around the country. We should get that up and going now. That shouldn't require a lot of time, effort, and new programs.

Earlier this week, I had the opportunity to visit a fire station in Norwood, OH. This is a community of about 19,000 people that has had 56 overdoses since June 1. That is one small town in Ohio with 56 overdoses just since this summer. I met with law enforcement, I met with firefighters, and I met with other first responders. I met with a treatment specialist they brought in to help and work with them. They are doing some very interesting intervention work with families. They showed me a video of a young man who was overdosing. They showed me a video of police officers and then firefighters administering Narcan—not once, not twice, but three times. They showed how he was brought back to life. It was tough to watch, but firefighters and other first responders, police officers, see that every single day.

Every 3 hours someone dies of an overdose in Ohio, but every 3 hours many more are saved by the administering of naloxone and Narcan to bring them back to life. As they are doing in Norwood, OH, the key is to intervene with that person, their family, and their friends and get that person into treatment so first responders are not administering Narcan again the next week or sometimes even the next day.

Over the last 4 years, the number of heroin overdoses has tripled. Let me repeat that. Over the last 4 years, the number of heroin overdoses has tripled. Sadly, there is reason to believe this trend is continuing.

Even though our first responders save the vast majority of those who overdose in Ohio, in Ohio we are losing more lives every day. We have already

had more drug overdoses and more drug overdose deaths this year, at the end of September, than we had all of last year.

Of course, the numbers don't really tell the story. This story is about people. It is about dreams that have been shattered. It is about lives that have been cut short, often lives that are promising and young. It is about people like the 25-year-old student who was found dead of a heroin overdose in a bathroom stall at Columbus State University last week—25 years old, with his whole life ahead of him. It is about people like the Hess family of Crestline, OH. Their son Jason was a college student, a talented musician, a gifted athlete. One of his classmates got him to try heroin, to just try it. Almost immediately the drugs became everything in Jason's life. Jason's dad said: "He liked his dealer more than he liked me."

I have met with several hundred addicts or recovering addicts in Ohio over the last few years. Many of them tell me the same thing, which is that the drugs do become everything, so they become everything ahead of friends and family and work.

Jason struggled with his addiction for 15 years. He was in and out of jail a lot and in and out of hospitals. In the past 2 months, his dad saved his life twice with naloxone because as family members they are now permitted to get Narcan over the counter.

A few weeks ago, Jason died of an overdose. He was 35 years old. When his mother heard the death notice a few hours later—she was informed about it—she went to a cemetery with a bottle of Valium and committed suicide. It was her 60th birthday. In a note she left behind, she said: "Thanks, heroin. Another victim." That was the note she left for all of us.

With this crisis getting worse and taking such a toll in Ohio, we have to get this legislation implemented as soon as possible and we have to continue to fight, not just for more funding but for better ideas and ways to address this problem at every level and in a comprehensive way.

We need support for safe disposal sites for prescription drugs. That is part of the legislation. When you are at the drugstore or at the pharmacy getting your medication, you will also have an opportunity right there to dispose of some of the medication you may not have used. I have been to these dropoff sites. I was at one recently at Walgreens in Toledo, where they are implementing a program to provide these sites and to provide safe disposal of these drugs so they don't get in the wrong hands.

The experts tell us that in most families in America, there are drugs available that can be dangerous. Many times, they are painkiller prescription drugs that are very addictive. Recently in Marion, OH, an 18-month-old girl was able to get into her parents' Percocet, and she overdosed. We need

these disposal sites to help protect kids like her.

We need CARA's prevention efforts, such as its national awareness campaign that is making this link I talked about between prescription drugs and heroin. People need to understand this.

Kelly Clixby of Marion, OH, needed that information. I met her earlier this year when I visited the Crawford-Marion Board of Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services, where they are working hard every day to fight back against this epidemic.

When I visited, the director, Jody Demo-Hodgins, told me that they are so overwhelmed with patients that "most of the time, I feel like I'm drowning." They are overwhelmed, but they are doing a great job, and Kelly is an example.

Kelly was prescribed painkillers. She became addicted to those painkillers, and, as is the case with many people, when those pills became too addictive and too expensive, when she couldn't afford them, she turned to heroin. Heroin is less expensive and more available, actually, in many cases. Within a year, she had lost her job, her house, her car, and custody of her five kids. Over the next decade, she and her husband Randy got a divorce. She was arrested four different times for shoplifting. She went to jail 19 times. She overdosed. Paramedics saved her life with naloxone, the Narcan we talked about. When Kelly was in the grip of this addiction, she didn't even want to get out of bed in the morning. She felt like she couldn't even get started on her day. She felt a constant sense of despair.

Kelly's life turned around when her best friend Chrystina died of a heroin overdose. At that point, she realized she needed to get treatment. Nine months to the day after paramedics saved her life, Kelly got clean. With the help of medication—in her case, Vivitrol, which is medication that actually blocks the craving for the opioid, and it has worked very well in many cases in Ohio, including in our drug courts—with the help of Vivitrol and with the compassion of people at the Marion Area Counseling Center, Kerry has now been sober for a year and a half. She is back with her husband Randy. She is back with her kids and her family. She is now a grandmother. She is leading a 12-step program to help others. She is beating this because she got treatment.

The Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act will help get more people into treatment so we can have more success stories like Kelly's. As I said, we need to raise awareness about how easy it is to become addicted to these opioids.

I believe that will also help us to be able to push aside the stigma that is so often associated with addiction. That is one reason people don't come forward and get treatment. Kelly said the stigma of addiction kept her from getting help when she needed it. She said:

You feel horrible for stealing because you need to get high. Then you get high and you feel horrible for getting high. And then you have to steal again. I feel guilty because I use, and I use because I feel guilty.

And the stigma kept her from coming forward.

Think about Tera Guest. Tera Guest is from Lorain, OH. She was a nurse's aide in a nursing home. She had been a good student and a talented artist. One day she was on her way to work and was hurrying down some stairs in her apartment building. She slipped, fell, and broke her ankle. When she went to her doctor, her doctor prescribed her Percocet and then OxyContin. She became addicted. When the prescriptions expired, like so many, she turned to heroin.

Her mom Lori—who is a strong advocate on this issue and heads up the Lorain Community Task Force—found out about Tera's addiction when Tera was evicted from her apartment and started living out of her car.

Lori felt what so many moms and dads have experienced in Ohio and across the country. She said that when her kids were young, "We never discussed heroin. I never thought it would be part of our lives. You don't think that it's going to be your child; you don't think that it's going to be in your family. And when it is, the stigma makes you so ashamed" and you don't want to talk about it.

Her daughter Tera fought this addiction for 2 years. At just 24 years old, she died of an overdose of heroin laced with fentanyl. Fentanyl is this synthetic heroin that is creeping into our communities, this poison that is coming into our country from other countries, particularly China and India. It is coming here by the mail system.

For Tera, it started with a broken ankle. It could happen to anybody. That is why we need this prevention effort—to warn people about the dangers and to help end the stigma to keep people from hiding it and to get them to come forward. For all these reasons—the prevention, the treatment, the recovery, and ending the stigma—the people we represent need this legislation to be enacted but also to be implemented as soon as possible.

In order to help as many people as we can, we have to get the funding in the CR working and we have to continue to fight for funding.

Madam President, we have talked about a lot of tough stories today. Unfortunately, the grip of this addiction is so great that there are a lot of heart-breaking stories, and it is getting worse, not better. But there is also hope. There is hope I see every week when I am back home in Ohio.

I recently met Sheila Humphrey, whose child succumbed to a heroin addiction and an overdose and death. She started her own organization with other moms and family members, and they are having great success in intervening with these families and explaining the reason to get treatment and get

into recovery. She gave me this bracelet. It talks about the Rally for Recovery in 2016. We had one in Ohio last weekend that I was able to attend.

At that rally, with the Ohio Citizen Advocates for Addiction Recovery, I got to meet so many people who are in recovery. They came forward to talk to me about their stories and to talk about what they are doing to help others. They talked to me about the need for us to have more treatments and recovery programs. I met someone who has not only beaten the addiction but is a counselor in Dayton, OH, named Gary. Gary Gonnella is helping others to get their lives back on track. He is incredibly persuasive because he has a story to tell.

Gary told me: Senator, there is hope. Don't give up.

He is telling me don't give up. I am telling my colleagues: People expect us not to give up. They are not giving up. This guy, Gary, is a recovering addict. He is not giving up, and he is asking us to ensure we do everything we can to help—to be a better partner with State and local governments and with the nonprofits out there in the trenches every day that are doing this work with folks like Gary who are looking for our help. CARA will give more people more hope.

So on behalf of all of those whom I talked about today, those whose lives were cut short, and their family members, and on behalf of our communities, let's continue this fight. Let's ensure we do, in fact, get CARA implemented quickly. Let's ensure we do continue to push not just to provide funding but new ideas and better ideas.

There is new legislation we just introduced in the last couple of weeks called the STOP Act that stops the synthetic heroin, the fentanyl, the carfentanyl, and U-4 from coming into our country from other countries by requiring packages include information about where the package is from, what is in it, and where it is going. That is not required now by the post office, but it is required by private carriers. So these traffickers are using the postal system, including the U.S. postal system, to move these deadly chemicals into our communities. We need to stop that.

So there is more we can and should do. It is our responsibility to do that. As we break for these elections and as the lameduck period in December comes upon us after that, let's continue to work to ensure we are able to turn this tide and bring back more hope.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

WILLS EYE HOSPITAL

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I wanted to come to the floor today, as I did last week, to speak once again about WillsEye Hospital in Philadelphia. When I was here last week, I was

talking about the hospital itself and the truly excellent work that is done at that hospital and, unfortunately, to talk as well about the unfair treatment that hospital is receiving from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. We know it by the acronym CMS.

CMS is using an arbitrary ratio of the number of inpatients and outpatients to make the argument—faulty though it is—that WillsEye is not a hospital and should be an ambulatory surgery center, which could have drastic implications and ultimately force WillsEye Hospital to close down. This hospital is almost 200 years old.

Last week, WillsEye Hospital started an online petition on change.org so people could show their support for the hospital. I wanted to share some of those comments today with Members of the Senate. These online postings, of course, don't just come from Philadelphia or Pennsylvania. They come from States across the Northeast and even beyond.

Here are just a couple of examples. Jack Croft from Lansdale, PA, which is not too far from Philadelphia, said:

I owe my life, my right eye, and my sight to Wills Eye Hospital and its brilliant ocular oncology team. Losing federal designation as a hospital would have a devastating effect on the lives of thousands, many of them children, who desperately need the specialized expertise of Wills.

So said Jack Croft.

Ayan Chatterjee from Philadelphia said the following:

Wills Eye Hospital provides care to so many complex patients from all across the world. It is not just a "surgi-center." State regulators got it right but Federal regulators should revisit this.

We continue to hope they will do that—my words, in addition to the comments.

Kathleen O'Brien from Vestal, NY—not from Pennsylvania—said:

I've needed Wills since 2005 to treat and monitor my ocular melanoma. They are the best in the world for my very rare cancer. Medicare is my primary insurance provider. It makes no logical sense to take away this vital institution to the thousands of children and adults they not only treat but save lives.

Erica Roache from Cape May Court House, NJ, said:

This hospital provides specialized care not available anywhere else. Doctors at Wills Eye quickly diagnosed and successfully treated my daughter's rare eye condition that had been misdiagnosed for years by other less specialized doctors. The possibility of closing this world class hospital due to senseless bureaucracy is just unthinkable.

So says Erica.

Here are two more. This is Mike Stanley from Overland Park, KS—half a country away from Pennsylvania:

We live in Overland Park, KS, and for the past 2 years have been flying from Kansas City to Philly for treatment for the retinoblastoma eye cancer you refer to.

He is referring to comments I had made when I was at WillsEye Hospital.

I continue on with Mike Stanley's comments:

Thankfully, my daughter is now 4 and in remission and we travel back to Philly next

week and Wills. Please let us know what we can do to support CMS changing how they classify Wills Eye so we and others can continue to get the best care in the world.

Alexis Butler, from Chelsea, MI, said:

I'm signing because as a volunteer at Camp Sunshine at Sebago Lake I've met many children who have been saved by Wills Eye Hospital. Their cases aren't handled much by other hospitals as well as they are at Wills. It needs to survive.

So said Alexis from the State of Michigan.

I will do one more. The final comments come from Nancy Cotton from Marlton, NJ.

Please do not be blinded by rubber stamp bureaucracy. Not everything fits neatly into arbitrary slots—visit Wills Eye and look in the faces of those whose vision was restored, saved, as well as the parents whose children's very lives were saved. This institution fills a desperate need for highly specialized service! Save Wills Eye!!

Notice she uses exclamation points—actually two exclamation points at the end. That is how Nancy Cotton from New Jersey ends her comments.

So you can see from these comments that these are real people talking about their real lives or that of a family member—sometimes a child—and commenting from the vantage point of what they had experienced in terms of the benefits that WillsEye Hospital has provided. I hope CMS is listening—and not just to these comments but to the many others that have been sent in.

None of these comments are compulsory. None of these comments are part of some organized political effort. People are just responding in a very authentic and substantial way. This is very rare to have this kind of commentary that is so specific about how WillsEye Hospital has made life better for people across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, people across the northeastern part of the United States and well beyond that, as we can document from the comments from Kansas.

So what we are trying to do is to work with WillsEye and CMS to work this out and to remove a bureaucratic barrier or obstacle in the way of keeping WillsEye Hospital open as a hospital so that it can deliver the kind of eye care—the kind of lifesaving eye care—that not only these people experience but that I experienced myself as a father.

My wife and I had a daughter, and, fortunately, she is doing very well now. She is out of college. But she had a moment in time when she was a little girl where she would have lost eyesight in one of her eyes were it not for WillsEye Hospital. That is a fact. That is documented. We know that. So I join in those comments we heard today, and I will continue to make them a part of the RECORD.

We are working to save this hospital. To say it is a world-class institution is a vast understatement. It has affected so many lives, including my own.

So CMS got this wrong. They have an obligation to get it right, to fix it, so that WillsEye Hospital can continue into the future.

We are grateful so many people are taking the time to go to change.org and focus on all the benefits of WillsEye Hospital. I will continue to make this case a high priority for the work I do, the work our office does. Time is running short now for the hospital. CMS has some work to do to make sure we get the result not only that I want but one that I know people across our Commonwealth and our country want.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I just came from a discussion on the Trans-Pacific Partnership and the damage it will do to our country.

We have had 25 years of trade policy that has cost jobs in places like Lorain, OH, Cleveland, OH, and Dayton, OH. We know these trade agreements pull down worker safety standards, environmental rules and protections, and food safety laws and rules. We know they cost us jobs. I know what has happened in my State. I see what has happened in places like Omaha, the Presiding Officer's State, and all over our country. I appreciate Senator MCCONNELL and Speaker RYAN saying they don't plan to bring the Trans-Pacific Partnership up for a vote in the lameduck session of Congress. I believe it would be a bit underhanded to do that when the public is speaking pretty loudly that these trade agreements don't work.

One part that in particular affects my State is something called rules of origin in the auto industry, where in order to qualify for a tariff reduction or tariff elimination to sell products, to sell a car, under NAFTA—NAFTA was a very flawed agreement. I helped lead the opposition. We almost defeated it down the hall in the House of Representatives. To qualify for NAFTA tariff reduction, removal, elimination, the car had to be mostly made—60 percent, more or less—in one of the three countries, the United States, Mexico or Canada. Under the TPP, Trans-Pacific Partnership, there are 12 countries, very disparate countries—Peru, the United States, Mexico, Canada, wealthy countries, Vietnam, poor countries. Under the rules of origin and TPP, a car can be more than half made elsewhere, like China, and then still be sold into the United States or sold into Canada or Mexico.

Fundamentally, what this means is, it has created a loophole you can drive my Jeep Cherokee, made by union workers 150 miles from my home in Toledo, OH—you can drive a Jeep Cher-

okee through this loophole. This will undermine the auto industry, it will undermine the supply chain, it will mean loss of jobs from auto assembly in Youngstown and Toledo and Sharonville, to other kinds—whether it is glass, tires, the steel in the cars. All this will undermine those jobs.

I again thank Senator MCCONNELL and Speaker RYAN as they have promised not to bring up this agreement. I hope they are men of their word. It is a disaster for our country. It is bad for our country. I appreciate that both Presidential candidates—one more knowledgeable than the other, perhaps, about trade policy—have opposed the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

I close with this. I see candidates make all kinds of claims about their position on trade. I see all kinds of candidates in their own private businesses doing certain things, but I know we can make products in the United States of America. The shoes I have were made by workers in Maine and Massachusetts. The suit I wear was made by union workers in a company 11 miles from my home in Cleveland. American workers just want a level playing field. They just want the opportunity to compete. They want the opportunity to make things. We know how to do that in this country. Our trade policy should reflect that.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). Without objection, it is so ordered.

JUSTICE AGAINST SPONSORS OF TERRORISM BILL

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, yesterday I voted to override the President's veto of S. 2040, the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act, or JASTA. I chose to support the motion to override after hearing from supporters of this bill, including the families of the 9/11 victims, and considering the concerns that have been raised by the administration about the bill's potential unintended consequences on our national security and foreign policy.

Ultimately, I believe that the families who lost loved ones on 9/11 should have their day in court. Although I supported passage of the bill, I have grave concerns about the dangerous precedent of opening foreign sovereign immunity. I believe our national security and foreign policy could be put in jeopardy if reciprocal laws are enacted in other countries, with the potential to open U.S. citizens, officials, and servicemembers to foreign lawsuits in which they could be required to disclose classified or sensitive information as part of court proceedings in other countries.

I have joined 27 of my colleagues in sending a bipartisan letter to the bill's authors, Senators SCHUMER and CORNYN, laying out our concerns about the legislation and seeking their commitment to work with us to mitigate any potential consequences of enacting this legislation.

RECOGNIZING PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION OF AMERICA

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, today I congratulate the Planned Parenthood Federation of America on a century's commitment to protecting women's health and making that health care a right, not a privilege. I have been proud to stand with Planned Parenthood against a tide of relentless political attacks, and I look forward to supporting this organization as it continues to empower all Americans to take control of their health for years to come.

When advocates opened the first birth control health clinic in the United States in 1916, they had a simple but bold goal: to ensure that all women, regardless of where they were born or where they live, have access to the information and resources they need to lead strong and healthy lives. Over the next hundred years, Planned Parenthood worked to cement the idea that preventive and reproductive health care is not a privilege afforded to the few but a key to leading a full, healthy life that should be available to every American.

In Ohio, our 28 Planned Parenthood clinics educate and provide care to tens of thousands of men and women each year, many of whom have nowhere else to turn. The lives and struggles of those patients are what motivate the dedicated staff and volunteers at these health clinics. And they do this critical work in the face of constant threats and attacks from all levels of government. Just this year, the State of Ohio passed an ill-conceived law that, had it not been overturned by a Federal district court, would have jeopardized access to preventive care and ceased operation of a prominent infant mortality prevention program.

I get letters all the time from constituents who rely on Planned Parenthood. One Ohioan wrote to me saying, "I was so amazed by the support for women that Planned Parenthood provided that I volunteered for them for years," while another wrote, "Planned Parenthood not only provided a well-rounded education, in which I had received none previously, but they also provided services that I would not have had access to otherwise." I have even heard that Planned Parenthood "saved the life of my best friend when she found a lump in her breast and she had no health insurance."

We need to listen to the voices of these women and remember that Planned Parenthood remains a vital health provider for so many. It is a strong advocate for its patients, and

further attempts to defund or destabilize this organization will result in more undiagnosed cancers, more untreated illnesses, and more unintended pregnancies.

We have seen the incredible progress our country can make when women make their own health care decisions and follow their dreams, and we know what an important role Planned Parenthood plays in making that possible. Congratulations to Planned Parenthood Federation of America on its 100th anniversary and for the important work its members do in Ohio's communities and across the country every day.

NATIONAL MANUFACTURING DAY

Mr. BENNET. Madam President, in honor of National Manufacturing Day on October 7, I would like to recognize the nearly 150,000 Coloradans who work for the 6,000 manufacturers across the State and contribute \$20 billion annually to the State's economy.

Colorado manufacturers contribute their ingenuity and talent to support growth in the aerospace, energy, bio-science, defense, food and beverage, agriculture, apparel and many other industries. In 2015, they exported over \$8 billion worth of U.S.-made goods overseas.

Manufacturing leaders in Colorado are continually looking for innovative ways to produce high-quality products. They have developed strong public-private-university partnerships through the Alliance for the Development of Additive Processing Technologies, ADAPT, Center at Colorado School of Mines, led by the Manufacturer's Edge—Colorado's NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership—and the Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation Institute National Research Initiative at the University of Colorado-Boulder.

From Oliver Manufacturing in La Junta to Woodward in Fort Collins to Lockheed Martin in Littleton to Reynolds Polymer in Grand Junction, manufacturers play a significant role in our local communities, providing high-skilled jobs and opportunities for suppliers and service providers.

That is why I look forward to celebrate the contributions of Colorado's manufacturers throughout the month of October with my colleagues in the Colorado congressional delegation, Governor John Hickenlooper, and Manufacturer's Edge.

TRIBUTE TO CLARENCE M. DITLOW III

Mr. MARKEY. Madam President, today I wish to recognize and thank Mr. Clarence M. Ditlow III for his commitment to protecting the American people. Through a lifetime of work improving automotive and safety laws, Mr. Ditlow has helped save thousands of lives and prevented many more injuries than would otherwise have occurred. A tireless champion for con-

sumers, his work has resulted in better government oversight of automakers, the installation of key safety features, and the exposure of safety defects in millions of cars, SUVs, and other trucks.

A 1965 chemical engineering graduate of Lehigh University, Mr. Ditlow pivoted to the legal profession following the completion of a JD from Georgetown University in 1970 and an LL.M. from Harvard Law School in 1971. Since then, he has been instrumental in improving auto safety, reliability, and efficiency as executive director of the Center for Auto Safety.

Mr. Ditlow's discovery of numerous automotive defects, combined with his persistent pressure on safety agencies and automakers alike, led to the removal of many unsafe vehicles from the road. His direct efforts led to the automotive recalls of 6.7 million Chevrolet with defective engine mounts, 15 million Firestone 500 tires, 1.5 million Ford Pintos and 2 million Jeeps with exploding gas tanks, 3 million Evenflo child seats with defective latches, 7 million Toyotas because of sudden acceleration defects, 2 million GM vehicles with defective ignition switches, and over 30 million Takata airbag inflators. He also led consumer efforts to get "lemon laws" passed in all 50 States.

I offer my sincere appreciation to Mr. Clarence M. Ditlow III and the Center for Automotive Safety for indefatigable dedication to auto safety and vigilance in uncovering automotive safety threats. Clarence demonstrates the impact a devoted industry watchdog can have on informing the public and saving lives. I am grateful for his years of collaboration with and assistance to Members of Congress, Federal and State safety agencies, and a myriad of other stakeholders, to improve automotive and public safety.

TRIBUTE TO DONDA MORGAN

Mr. UDALL. Madam President, I wish to say a heartfelt thank you and congratulations to Donda Morgan, who retired at the end of last month after 17 years and 8 months with my office. I do this knowing that she shies away from fuss and attention, preferring to stay quiet and behind the scenes. But she deserves this recognition for her service to me—and especially to the people of New Mexico.

Donda was born and raised in the Clovis-Portales area of Eastern New Mexico. She graduated from Eastern New Mexico University and worked in public service for over two decades. She came to Washington in 1995 after a nearly 10-year stint with Capitol Government Reports, a Santa Fe publication. She went to work for one of my predecessors in the House of Representatives, former U.S. Representative Bill Richardson, until he was appointed Energy Secretary. So I knew she was well qualified for the job. When I was elected in 1998, she joined my new congres-

sional office, starting almost on the first day of the new year, January 3, 1999.

Donda began as the manager of my office operations, managing the office budget and then my schedule—which I am sure was no easy task. As one newspaper reporter once wrote, she was in charge of "everything that [came] in and out of the . . . office from pencils and pens to letterhead and business cards." She served with me throughout my tenure in the House and then moved over to the Senate staff as my executive assistant and scheduler when I was elected to this body in 2009.

I admire many things about Donda, but perhaps the most important is that she served with the highest integrity. As my assistant and scheduler, she worked directly with New Mexicans who came to my Washington office for appointments or to check in with me or my staff. Donda was always particularly careful to make sure that everyone was treated the same. In a sense, she was the face of my Senate office, scheduling and greeting everyone—celebrated or not—with equal parts of graciousness and firmness, while keeping the train running on time, a daunting task in a Senate office. She firmly appreciated that her first responsibility was to the people of New Mexico. My constituents from New Mexico got to know and love her. I have heard them comment that they were glad that she was my scheduler because they knew she would try her best to make sure they had an opportunity to see me.

Donda has a strong work ethic and was an incredible coworker and team player, always willing to help where she could. She also has a quirky sense of style. My staff especially enjoyed hearing ZZ Top and AC/DC playing from her office while she worked. She was known for wearing colorful hightop sneakers, chosen with the help of her beloved grandson Aiden.

Donda also has a fondness for certain celebrities, and while she shied away from the fuss, she enjoyed seeing some of the Hollywood stars who sometimes visit Congress to talk about issues they care about. But, more than anything, Donda appreciates good, hard work. My dad used to say it was important not just to "get it done—but get it done right." And that fits Donda to a T. She had a demanding job. To use a metaphor, she was a juggler, and she managed to do it with humor and unfailing commitment.

Time, which she managed for my office with such skill and aplomb, has now brought her to a much deserved retirement, which I know she will manage with equal grace and spirit. I thank her on behalf of my office and the people of New Mexico.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ALAN CHARLES

• Mr. DAINES. Madam President, today I wish to recognize Alan Charles

of Miles City for his tireless work at Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. Alan served in the agency's Helena office for the last 20 years, helping maintain Montanans' access to quality hunting grounds, an integral part of our way of life.

In his role, Alan oversaw the block management program, which enabled landowners to enroll 7,234,628 acres of land for public hunting. He also provided oversight for critical access programs to ensure Montanans were able to enjoy our great outdoors and participate in our favorite pastimes. Over the course of 10 legislative sessions, he also provided testimony and background on legislation dealing with access and game issues in our great State.

Alan was also a community builder, helping bring together landowners, the State government, and sportsmen, finding common ground among these groups.

I am grateful for Alan's service to our State and its vast natural resources. After all, they are what make Montana the Treasure State. It takes a dedicated person to accomplish what Alan did, and I profoundly appreciate his time and efforts to preserve the Montanan way of life.●

RECOGNIZING FARM RESCUE

● Mr. HOEVEN. Madam President, today I wish to recognize Farm Rescue for assisting 400 farm and ranch families during times of crisis. Farm Rescue provides assistance to farming families who are suffering from a major injury, illness, or natural disaster by lending a helping hand with planting, harvesting crops, or providing haying assistance. They also assist producers with hauling hay and grain if a farmer or rancher cannot do these critical tasks. Farm Rescue's relief efforts have come in times of natural disaster, like tornadoes, and personal crisis, such as cancer treatments, spinal cord injuries, and lost limbs.

In rural communities, it is common for folks to help one another when in need, and this organization epitomizes that spirit. Farm Rescue was founded by Bill Gross in 2006, a native North Dakota farm boy who, while working as a full-time UPS pilot, donates his free time to run this organization. Mr. Gross has molded Farm Rescue into a one-of-a-kind nonprofit organization whose sole purpose is to aid farmers and ranchers who need a little help in the midst of a crisis. Farm Rescue actually does the critical labor the farmer or rancher needs to get done, while the assisted producer provides the crop inputs, like seed, fertilizer, and fuel.

Since 2006, Farm Rescue has assisted hundreds of farm families in the Midwest, including North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Montana, and Minnesota. This year alone, Farm Rescue has already helped 50 families, and they are still in the field assisting more. Its operations are primarily

completed by a volunteer labor force that come from all over the country to help, and many of those volunteers are retired farmers seeking to lend their help and expertise to those in need.

Farm Rescue's first case in 2006 was to assist a farmer whose hand was severed in an auger accident. In 2012, they harvested for a family near Wyndmere, ND, marking their 200th case, after the farmer fell off his semitrailer and broke vertebrae in his neck. One hundred cases later, in 2014, Farm Rescue helped a Fergus Falls, MN, man with harvest while he underwent treatment for blood cancer. Two years later, Farm Rescue is now completing its 400th case by enabling a family with a loved one suffering from cancer to complete harvest.

It must be a great relief to farming and ranching families to know that, if an unexpected medical diagnosis complicates spring planting or multiple lengthy trips to doctor appointments make harvesting the fall crop near impossible, there is an organization that will coordinate volunteers to come out and lend a neighborly helping hand. Farm Rescue is making a positive contribution to the agriculture community all over the United States, and I am proud to be able to recognize this organization. Farm Rescue is a powerful reminder of what Americans can achieve when they work together to help each other in times of need.●

TRIBUTE TO BRETT BAKER

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Brett Baker, a 2016 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Brett is a current student from the University of South Florida. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Brett for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO TRISTAN BAKER

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Tristan Baker, a 2016 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Tristan is a current student from Rollins College. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Tristan for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO NICOLETTE DELORENZO

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Nicolette DeLorenzo, a 2016 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Nicolette is a current student from Wake Forest University. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Nicolette for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO NICOLAS DUARIO

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Nicolas Duario, a 2016 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Nicolas is a student at Bishop Moore High School. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Nicolas for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO JOHN PAUL GILLIGAN

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize John Paul Gilligan, a 2016 summer intern in my Jacksonville office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

John Paul is a recent graduate from Villanova University, where he majored in comprehensive science. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to John Paul for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO WESLEY HARRIS

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Wesley Harris, a 2016 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Wesley is a student at Boone High School. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Wesley for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH TODD HIGGINBOTHAM

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Joseph Todd Higginbotham, a 2016 spring intern in my Jacksonville office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Joseph is a recent graduate from the University of North Florida, where he majored in political science and minored in urban and metropolitan studies and public administration. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Joseph for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO COLIN MATTHAEI

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Colin Matthaei, a 2016 summer intern in my Jacksonville office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Colin is a current student from Birmingham-Southern College, where he is majoring in global comparative studies. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Colin for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO DARBY McQUEEN

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Darby McQueen, a 2016 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Darby is a current student from the University of Alabama. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Darby for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO ALISE MORRIS

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Alise Morris, a 2016 spring intern in my Jacksonville office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Alise is a recent graduate from the University of North Florida, where she majored in political science. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Alise for all

the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO BRETT NOLAN

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Brett Nolan, a 2016 summer intern in my Jacksonville office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Brett is a current student from the University of North Florida, where he is majoring in political science in American politics and minoring in economics and communications. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Brett for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO SHELBY RIGDON

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Shelby Rigdon, a 2016 spring intern in my Jacksonville office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Shelby is a recent graduate from the University of North Florida, where she majored in political science. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Shelby for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO LONDON ROTUNDO

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize London Rotundo, a 2016 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

London is a student from Keiser University in Orlando. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to London for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO MAKAYLA STILIANOU

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Makayla Stilianou, a 2016 summer intern in my Jacksonville office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Makayla is a current student from the University of Florida, where she is majoring in English. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been de-

voted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Makayla for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO ALEXANDRA TEISAN

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Alexandra Teisan, a 2016 summer intern in my Jacksonville office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Alexandra is a current student from American University, where she is majoring in international studies. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Alexandra for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO BENJAMIN TORPEY

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Benjamin Torpey, a 2016 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Benjamin is a student at the University of Florida. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Benjamin for all the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO LYDIA WALSH

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Lydia Walsh, a 2016 summer intern in my Orlando office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Lydia is a graduate from Stetson University. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Lydia for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO CAROLINE WILLIAMS

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Caroline Williams, a 2016 summer intern in my Jacksonville office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

Caroline is a current student from the University of Florida, where she is majoring in political science. She is a

dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Caroline for all the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

REMEMBERING CHARLES DELESINE FOSTER

● Mr. SCOTT. Madam President, I wish to acknowledge and honor Mr. Charles DeLesline Foster, the first African American to graduate from The Citadel in Charleston, SC. This year, on November 5, the school is celebrating the 50-year anniversary of his matriculation into the school.

Although Mr. Foster is no longer with us, we still remember and honor his legacy. After graduating from The Citadel in 1970 with a degree in business administration, he went on to serve our Nation as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army and became an explosives expert working at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland. In 1973, he left the Army and became the manager for a moving company in Texas.

Mr. Foster was an American hero who served his country and became a significant part of our State's history. I wish I could be there with the community to celebrate such a historical moment. But it is truly an honor to recognize Mr. Charles Foster, a true trailblazer, and his story can serve as an inspiration to us all.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. VEGE RAO

● Mr. SCOTT. Madam President, after serving pediatric patients and their families for 38 years, Dr. Vege Rao will be retiring from Marion Pediatrics.

Dr. Rao, a loyal, dedicated, and passionate physician became the first pediatrician in Marion County when he opened his pediatric practice in 1978. He chose Marion County due to high infant mortality rates and the great need for pediatric services in the community.

Dr. Rao has served as a pillar to this rural community, as evidenced by the generations of families he has provided health care to over the years. Many parents of today's patients were initially patients of his themselves. Dr. Rao's legacy will forever be defined not just by his work but by the people he touched in this community, some of the State's most vulnerable and underserved populations.

I wish to recognize both him and his wife, Sochetha, for epitomizing the very best of the Palmetto State. I wish Dr. Rao well on his retirement; he has earned it.●

RECOGNIZING LARSON CHIROPRACTIC

● Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, from time to time, I will be coming for-

ward to recognize a small business from Alaska that has made contributions to our community.

This month, I wish to recognize Larson Chiropractic, a small business in Wasilla, AK, that does big things. Larson Chiropractic exemplifies the things that small businesses can do to benefit a community, a State, and our country.

First, let me say that small business truly is the backbone of our economy and our communities, and we should be doing all we can do in DC to support small businesses and the entrepreneurship and innovation that creates them. Small businesses owners and those who work for them have ties to the community. They know community needs, and they work to fulfill those needs.

Larson Chiropractic is a family business committed to improving the health care and lifestyles of Mat-Su Valley residents. Dr. Dan Larson started the company in 1991, and now his son, Dr. Kris Larson, owns Larson Chiropractic and Back in Action Physical Therapy. The company is fully Alaskan-owned and operated, and though it is small, the effect on the local community is anything but.

Larson Chiropractic focuses on family-oriented chiropractic health care that emphasizes effective pain relief without the use of drugs and promoting wellness care through prevention, specializing in sports treatment. Their community service centers around their commitment to the area high school athletes. The business is also heavily involved in the annual food drive during Hunger Action Month.

Dr. Kris Larson volunteers countless hours at high school sporting events, dealing with injuries on scene, free of charge and, preventing the need for expensive treatment and recovery time later. The staff have also become regular fixtures at sporting events throughout the region, donating time and resources to sporting programs in each high school.

Even retired founder Dr. Dan fills in at the clinic when needed and during September assists student athletes and coaches from Wasilla High School every Friday night. From football season, he transitions into basketball season, often traveling with the teams to make sure they are always ready to compete.

Dr. Dan also started the Doc Larson Roundball Classic Tournament at the school to give athletes exposure to new people, more basketball, and to give back to the community. Larson Chiropractic and Back in Action Physical Therapy staff a therapy room at Wasilla High for the entire tournament, providing free care to all athletes present, no matter where their team is from.

Finally, Larson Chiropractic cares about the community beyond sports medicine. For Hunger Action Month, the business hosts a food drive to help residents of the Mat-Su Valley, covering the cost of admission to the

Wasilla High varsity football match-up for anyone who donates two or more food items and continuing the drive in the clinic's lobby and waiting area.

They also educate their patients, placing "Real People, Real Stories" displays inside examination rooms providing the stories of community members who suffer food insecurity and how food drives help to ensure brighter futures for those in need.

Larson Chiropractic cares about the community and cares about the community caring about the community. They have demonstrated a tireless, selfless drive to give back and an inspirational enthusiasm. Their commitment to creating better lives for the residents of the Mat-Su area has benefited this Alaskan community for many years and hopefully will continue to do so for many more.●

REMEMBERING DAN SOSA, JR.

● Mr. UDALL. Madam President, I wish to commemorate the life of Justice Dan Sosa, Jr. On September 4, New Mexico lost an accomplished jurist, combat veteran, and champion of the Hispanic community. It is with great sympathy and respect that I honor this beloved Las Cruces.

Justice Sosa dedicated his long life to serving others. And thanks to news coverage of his life, I am able to share some details about his background and history. Shortly after enrolling at New Mexico A&M, he enlisted in the Air Force. When he returned home from World War II with 35 successful combat missions under his belt, Justice Sosa finished his undergraduate degree and spent a year teaching at Mesilla Elementary before enrolling in the University of New Mexico Law School. It was there that he met and married the love of his life, Rita.

After graduating from law school, he returned to Las Cruces to start his own practice. He served as an assistant district attorney and city judge before being elected district attorney of Dona Ana, Otero, and Lincoln Counties in 1956, becoming the first Hispanic to ever serve in that position.

Justice Sosa's efforts to break down barriers for fellow Hispanics went far beyond his personal trailblazing. After completing two terms as district attorney, in 1965, he helped found the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, or MALDEF, an organization aimed at protecting the legal rights of Hispanics in America and promoting educational opportunities.

Justice Sosa is best known for his tenure on the New Mexico State Supreme Court. He was appointed to the court in 1975 and left as its chief justice in 1991. He remains one of the longest serving justices in the State court's history.

Throughout his storied career, Justice Sosa never forgot about the Las Cruces community he called home. In fact, he passed away in the very same adobe house he was born in on November 12, 1923. His commitment to the

principles he learned from his family and community guided his great life and helped him build a towering example for generations of New Mexicans.

Justice Sosa leaves behind his wife, Rita, his sister Lucia, 7 children, 26 grandchildren, and 31 great-grandchildren, and I extend my deepest condolences to his family and friends. He served his community, his State, and his country with honor. New Mexico will miss Justice Dan Sosa, Jr., a humble and dedicated public servant.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:01 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment):

S. Con. Res. 53. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 5325.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con Res. 166. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6094. An act to provide for a 6-month delay in the effective date of a rule of the Department of Labor relating to income thresholds for determining overtime pay for executive, administrative, professional, outside sales, and computer employees.

The message further announced that the House agree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 5325) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 10:05 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 5325. An act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

The President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH) announced that on today, September 29, 2016, he signed the following enrolled bills, which were previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

S. 1004. An act to amend title 36, United States Code, to encourage the nationwide observance of two minutes of silence each Veterans Day.

S. 1698. An act to exclude payments from State eugenics compensation programs from consideration in determining eligibility for, or the amount of, Federal public benefits.

S. 1878. An act to extend the pediatric priority review voucher program.

S. 2683. An act to include disabled veteran leave in the personnel management system of the Federal Aviation Administration.

H.R. 2494. An act to support global anti-poaching efforts, strengthen the capacity of partner countries to counter wildlife trafficking, designate major wildlife trafficking countries, and for other purposes.

At 12:56 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5303. An act to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 954. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt from the individual mandate certain individuals who had coverage under a terminated qualified health plan funded through the Consumer Operated and Oriented Plan (CO-OP) program.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 6094. An act to provide for a 6-month delay in the effective date of a rule of the Department of Labor relating to income thresholds for determining overtime pay for executive, administrative, professional, outside sales, and computer employees.

S. 3464. A bill to provide incremental increases to the salary threshold for exemptions for executive, administrative, professional, outside sales, and computer employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, September 29, 2016, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 1004. An act to amend title 36, United States Code, to encourage the nationwide observance of two minutes of silence each Veterans Day.

S. 1698. An act to exclude payments from State eugenics compensation programs from consideration in determining eligibility for, or the amount of, Federal public benefits.

S. 1878. An act to extend the pediatric priority review voucher program.

S. 2683. An act to include disabled veteran leave in the personnel management system of the Federal Aviation Administration.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2763. A bill to provide the victims of Holocaust-era persecution and their heirs a fair opportunity to recover works of art confiscated or misappropriated by the Nazis.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 3460. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide certain limitations on the designation and use of national monuments; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KIRK:

S. 3461. A bill to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to refund or credit certain excess payments made to the Commission; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. SCOTT, and Mr. FLAKE):

S. 3462. A bill to provide for a 6-month delay in the effective date of a rule of the Department of Labor relating to income thresholds for determining overtime pay for executive, administrative, professional, outside sales, and computer employees; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. JOHNSON:

S. 3463. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt student workers for purposes of determining a higher education institution's employer health care shared responsibility; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. SCOTT, and Mr. FLAKE):

S. 3464. A bill to provide incremental increases to the salary threshold for exemptions for executive, administrative, professional, outside sales, and computer employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 3465. A bill to amend the Export Administration Act of 1979 to include in the prohibitions on boycotts against allies of the United States boycotts fostered by international governmental organizations against Israel and to direct the Export-Import Bank of the United States to oppose boycotts against Israel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 3466. A bill to allow sponsors of certain new drug applications to rely upon investigations conducted in certain foreign countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 3467. A bill to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to terminate an exemption for companies located in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and any other possession of the United States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 3468. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to expand tax credit education and training for small businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. Res. 590. A resolution commemorating 100 years of health care services provided by Planned Parenthood; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. COTTON):

S. Res. 591. A resolution designating the week of October 9 through October 15, 2016, as “National Case Management Week” to recognize the role of case management in improving health care outcomes for patients; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCOTT (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. BROWN):

S. Res. 592. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the month of September 2016 as “Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month” in order to educate communities across the United States about sickle cell disease and the need for research, early detection methods, effective treatments, and preventative care programs with respect to sickle cell disease; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mrs. MCCASKILL):

S. Res. 593. A resolution designating September 22, 2016, as “National Falls Prevention Awareness Day” to raise awareness and encourage the prevention of falls among older adults; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. WICKER):

S. Res. 594. A resolution expressing support for designation of the third Saturday in October 2016 as “National Animal Rescue Day” to create awareness of and educate individuals on the importance of adoption of animals, to create a humane environment for any pet, and to encourage animal adoptions throughout the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. VITTER, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. COONS, Mrs. ERNST, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 595. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Veterans Small Business Week; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. KIRK, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 596. A resolution designating September 2016 as “Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. Res. 597. A resolution designating September 2016 as “National Kinship Care Month”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. REID, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. KIRK, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. FRANKEN, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. Res. 598. A resolution designating October 2016 as “Filipino American History Month”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. AYOTTE, and Mr. WICKER):

S. Res. 599. A resolution expressing support for the designation of October 20, 2016, as the “National Day on Writing”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. REED,

Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. KIRK, Mr. PETERS, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. Res. 600. A resolution designating the week of September 26 through 30, 2016, as “National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week”; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. Res. 601. A resolution designating September 2016 as “National Dystonia Awareness Month” and raising awareness and understanding of the disorder of dystonia; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. REID, Mr. UDALL, Mr. COONS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. HELLER):

S. Res. 602. A resolution supporting the inclusion and meaningful engagement of Latinos in environmental protection and conservation efforts; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. PERDUE):

S. Res. 603. A resolution designating the week beginning on the first Friday after Thanksgiving in 2016 as “National Electronic Payments Week”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KIRK:

S. Res. 604. A resolution expressing support for the designation of November 2016 as “National Bladder Health Month”; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TOOMEY (for himself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. NELSON):

S. Res. 605. A resolution honoring Arnold Palmer; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COTTON, Mr. HATCH, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. VITTER, Mr. MORAN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. DAINES, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. Res. 606. A resolution honoring the memories and legacies of the 3 law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the attack on July 17, 2016, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, condemning that attack, and recognizing the heroism of law enforcement personnel and first responders; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. BURR, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. Res. 607. A resolution recognizing the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency on its 20th anniversary; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. WARREN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. COONS, Mr. NELSON, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. REED, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. CARPER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. Res. 608. A resolution designating the week of September 17 through September 24, 2016, as “National Estuaries Week”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VITTER (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. Res. 609. A resolution honoring the memories and heroic actions of those killed, injured, and affected by the fatal bus crash

in Laplace, Louisiana, on August 28, 2016; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BURR, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. KING, Mr. COONS, Mr. BROWN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KIRK, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. THUNE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. Res. 610. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the first Friday in October 2016 as “Manufacturing Day”; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GARDNER (for himself and Mr. BENNET):

S. Res. 611. A resolution supporting the designation of October 8, 2016, as “40 Years of Women Cadets at the United States Air Force Academy Day”; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. COONS):

S. Res. 612. A resolution recognizing the Weatherization Assistance Program during its 40th anniversary year for its history of reducing the energy costs of families with low incomes, making low-income households healthier and safer, positively impacting the environment, and supporting jobs and new technology; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. Res. 613. A resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of North Mississippi Rural Legal Services in Oxford, Mississippi; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CRUZ):

S. Con. Res. 55. A concurrent resolution commemorating the 100th anniversary of the 1916 opening of the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences and the 2016 opening of the new Texas A&M Veterinary & Biomedical Education complex in College Station, Texas; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 298

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 298, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to provide States with the option of providing services to children with medically complex conditions under the Medicaid program and Children’s Health Insurance Program through a care coordination program focused on improving health outcomes for children with medically complex conditions and lowering costs, and for other purposes.

S. 314

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 314, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services.

S. 843

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor

of S. 843, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare.

S. 1714

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1714, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to transfer certain funds to the Multiemployer Health Benefit Plan and the 1974 United Mine Workers of America Pension Plan, and for other purposes.

S. 1831

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1831, a bill to revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

S. 2216

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2216, a bill to provide immunity from suit for certain individuals who disclose potential examples of financial exploitation of senior citizens, and for other purposes.

S. 2551

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2551, a bill to help prevent acts of genocide and mass atrocities, which threaten national and international security, by enhancing United States civilian capacities to prevent and mitigate such crises.

S. 2595

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2595, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 2867

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2867, a bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to establish an Office of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation and a Small Business Capital Formation Advisory Committee, and for other purposes.

S. 2895

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2895, a bill to extend the civil statute of limitations for victims of Federal sex offenses.

S. 3021

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3021, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize

the use of Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to pursue independent study programs at certain educational institutions that are not institutions of higher learning.

S. 3034

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3034, a bill to prohibit the National Telecommunications and Information Administration from allowing the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority functions contract to lapse unless specifically authorized to do so by an Act of Congress.

S. 3065

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3065, a bill to amend parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act to invest in funding prevention and family services to help keep children safe and supported at home, to ensure that children in foster care are placed in the least restrictive, most family-like, and appropriate settings, and for other purposes.

S. 3198

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) were added as cosponsors of S. 3198, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of adult day health care services for veterans.

S. 3244

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3244, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to clarify the treatment of pediatric dental coverage in the individual and group markets outside of Exchanges established under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3304

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3304, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve the Veterans Crisis Line.

S. 3374

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3374, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a reduced excise tax rate for portable, electronically-aerated bait containers.

S. 3391

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3391, a bill to reauthorize the Museum and Library Services Act.

S. 3405

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 3405, a bill to transfer certain items from the United States Munitions List to the Commerce Control List.

S. 3407

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3407, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to facilitate assignment of military trauma care providers to civilian trauma centers in order to maintain military trauma readiness and to support such centers, and for other purposes.

S. 3414

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3414, a bill to condition assistance to the West Bank and Gaza on steps by the Palestinian Authority to end violence and terrorism against Israeli citizens.

S. 3449

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3449, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a program for labeling cultural property of Iraq or Syria legally entering the United States.

S. RES. 432

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 432, a resolution supporting respect for human rights and encouraging inclusive governance in Ethiopia.

S. RES. 535

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 535, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the trafficking of illicit fentanyl into the United States from Mexico and China.

S. RES. 536

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 536, a resolution proclaiming the week of October 30 through November 5, 2016, as "National Obesity Care Week".

S. RES. 579

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 579, a resolution recognizing the 40th Anniversary of the first class of women admitted to the Coast Guard Academy.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 3460. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide certain limitations on the designation and use of national monuments; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3460

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Local Community and Sportsmen Input in Monuments Act”.

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION AND USE OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS.

Section 320301 of title 54, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “The President may, in the President’s discretion,” and inserting “Subject to subsection (e), the President may”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(e) CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL REQUIRED BEFORE DESIGNATION.—No national monument may be designated under subsection (a) until—

“(1) each county, borough, parish, or equivalent unit of local government within and adjacent to the boundaries of which the proposed national monument is to be located—

“(A) has been consulted with respect to the designation; and

“(B) has approved the designation; and

“(2) the Governor and legislature of each State within the boundaries of which the proposed national monument is to be located has approved the proposed national monument.

“(f) RESTRICTIONS ON USE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Any national monument designated under subsection (a) shall be open to hunting, fishing, other forms of recreation, grazing, and other historic or traditional uses in accordance with applicable law, unless the Secretary concerned closes all or a portion of the national monument to 1 or more of those uses, in accordance with the purposes of this chapter.

“(2) REVIEW PERIOD.—The Secretary shall not impose any restriction on hunting, fishing, grazing, wildlife management, or other historic or traditional uses at a national monument designated under subsection (a) until the date of expiration of an appropriate review period, as determined by the Secretary, providing for, with respect to the proposed restriction, the concurrence by applicable State wildlife management agencies, public input, and approval by Congress.”.

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. SCOTT, and Mr. FLAKE):

S. 3464. A bill to provide incremental increases to the salary threshold for exemptions for executive, administrative, professional, outside sales, and computer employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and for other purposes; read the first time.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, Senate offices have been hearing about something called the overtime rule on a daily basis. We are hearing about it from colleges, universities, Boy Scout troops, church camps, other nonprofits, employers, and employees who don’t like to be suddenly considered employees who punch a timecard.

Today, I would like to talk about action that Congress can take to change the effect of the overtime rule the administration issued that will go into effect in December unless we do something.

The Senator from Oklahoma, Mr. LANKFORD, and the Senator from Maine, Ms. COLLINS, introduced legislation that would delay for 6 months the implementation of the rule. I cosponsored that legislation and I fully support it.

Yesterday, the House of Representatives passed a bill with that same language which would delay for 6 months the implementation of the rule. That would be my preferred solution.

Today I am introducing another piece of legislation that addresses the problems with the overtime rule that I hope will gather more bipartisan support. A similar bill was introduced in the House by Democrat Representative KURT SCHRADER of Oregon and is cosponsored by 10 Democrats and 7 Republicans. My hope is that when we come back in November, Senators on both sides of the aisle will have heard from their Boy Scout troops, from their colleges and universities, from their restaurants, and from their employees, who say: Wait a minute, this overtime rule makes no sense the way it is being implemented. Do something in November to change its negative effect on our country.

I am introducing a bill today with the cosponsorship of Senator COLLINS of Maine, Senator LANKFORD of Oklahoma, Senator SCOTT of South Carolina, and Senator FLAKE of Arizona that will protect America’s nonprofits, churches, colleges, and communities from the effect of the administration’s overtime rule that will go into effect on December 1 unless we act.

When we talk about employers that will be affected by overtime, we are talking about Operation Smile, which is a charity that funds cleft palate operations for children. Operation Smile says this rule may cost them at least 3,000 surgeries a year. The effect of this rule may mean 3,000 children won’t have surgeries each year for cleft palates because of the cost of this regulation.

We are talking about the Great Smoky Mountain Council of Boy Scouts. That is my home Boy Scout council where I grew up and where I live. They are telling me the new rule will result in about \$100,000 in annual costs because during certain seasons employees staff weekend camping trips, which mean longer hours. That is what you do in Boy Scouts, Mr. President—you go on camping trips. And they are not 8-hour trips most of the time. If you are going to start saying they have to pay overtime to Scout masters and others you are going to have fewer boys and girls having a chance for Scouting.

Senator ISAKSON of Georgia spoke on the floor about a phone call he received from the pastor at Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in Marietta, one of the largest Baptist churches in Georgia. That church provides daycare, early childhood development, and sports activities at Vacation Bible School, a 24/7 program for underprivileged kids in

the Atlanta area. Under the overtime rule that goes into effect in December, a camp counselor for their Vacation Bible School will have to be paid overtime for many hours of the day when they are with the children, even if they are sleeping. So this rule could price the Johnson Ferry Baptist Church out of the business of providing Bible school church camp for underprivileged children.

So there will be fewer cleft palate operations, fewer Scouting opportunities, and fewer church camp opportunities for underprivileged children.

Here’s what I mean by the overtime rule:

Hourly workers in this country are usually paid overtime, but salaried workers generally don’t earn overtime unless they are making below a threshold set by the Labor Department and required by the Fair Labor Standards Act. Today that threshold is a little over \$23,000. This new rule issued by the Obama administration just 4 months ago raises the threshold from just over \$23,000 to over \$47,000 all at once on December 1. In other words, in 3 months it will double. This is a 100-percent increase and on December 1, employers will have had only about 6 months to prepare for this, reclassify employees, put time clock systems in place, adjust workers’ schedules, and find new revenue to pay for all of this. It has thrown small businesses and colleges into a panic in the State of Tennessee. One poll released this month found that 49 percent of business owners were not aware of the rule that goes into effect in 3 months.

The legislation I am introducing today would stretch out over 5 years the administration’s increase in the salary threshold for overtime pay. I have not met many people who don’t believe the threshold ought to go up. I have not met many people who think that it ought to be doubled in 6 months and automatically increased every 3 years, or that it should jump so high and all at once.

On December 1, under the legislation I am introducing, it would still increase significantly—from \$23,660 to \$35,984. This is about a 50-percent increase. This bill would modify a rule that many believe goes too high and too fast and will result in employers, nonprofits, colleges, and others cutting workers’ hours and limiting their workplace benefits and flexibility, as well as costing students more in tuition.

If there is one subject I hear about on the Senate floor, it is Senators from both sides of the aisle saying college costs are too high. Yet the independent colleges and the public colleges of Tennessee have written me and they have detailed how the cost of this rule will have the effect of raising tuition by hundreds of dollars per student. So how can you go around complaining about college tuition increases on the one hand and on the other hand issue a rule that raises college tuition by hundreds of dollars in thousands of schools?

My bill will do four things:

No. 1, it will modify the rule so that it is phased in over 5 years rather than all at once on December 1. Most people I talk to think it ought to go up, just as I have said, but they do not think it ought to go up all at once. There is no need for that, so phase it in over 5 years.

No. 2, make a significant increase on December 1, but then prohibit an increase in 2017 to give employers and employees an opportunity to adjust while our independent government watchdog—the Government Accountability Office, the GAO—studies the impact of the rule on American workers after the first year of implementation. So what I have said is that on December 1, the threshold goes up 50 percent, and then for 1 year it doesn't go up at all while the GAO studies the impact of that increase on colleges, church camps, businesses, workers, and others.

No. 3, it would clarify that the administration does not have the authority to automatically increase the overtime threshold, which is currently set to occur automatically every 3 years, starting in 2020.

No. 4, it would require a study of the rule's impact after the first year of implementation. If the study finds the impact is negative, the bill will exempt certain employers from future increases—nonprofits, including churches, colleges, and universities; State and local governments; many Medicaid and Medicare eligible facilities, such as nursing homes or facilities serving individuals with disabilities.

These are employers who can't just raise prices. They are dependent on tax dollars or on charitable donations. And if they are in trouble because of this rule, our communities will lose critical services—surgeries for cleft palates, Scouting opportunities, church camps for underprivileged kids, and others.

This is not a partisan proposal. My bill is very similar to a bill introduced by House Democrat KURT SCHRADER of Oregon and cosponsored by 10 Democrats and 7 Republicans. So my hope is that our Democratic colleagues will take a look at this bill and say that this is a reasonable, bipartisan proposal to apply more common sense to the overtime rule when it comes to the employees, employers, and nonprofits that serve our country.

Without these bills, on December 1, the salary threshold for overtime pay will more than double, from just over \$23,000 to over \$47,000. Representative KURT SCHRADER, a Democrat, when he introduced his bill, said the following:

Since the Department of Labor's immediate phase-in date was announced, we've heard from business owners and their employees who are worried about implementing this increase overnight. Without sufficient time to plan for the increase, cuts and demotions will become inevitable, and workers will actually end up making less than they made before.

Democratic Representative SCHRA-
DER has 10 Democrats as cosponsors,

including Congressman JIM COOPER from my State of Tennessee, who said:

I am hearing from lots of Middle Tennesseans who are worried about how this new rule will affect them. The overtime rule hadn't been adjusted in years and needed updating. But it's good to make commonsense changes and add flexibility so the rule works for all businesses and workers can actually have a chance to get ahead. We don't want to see lost hours or shifts in job responsibility.

I congratulate Senator COLLINS of Maine and Senator LANKFORD of Oklahoma for the legislation they introduced to delay the overtime rule's effect for 6 months. I support that bill, and I am glad the House of Representatives last night passed that bill, but I am also introducing this alternative for those in the body—especially my Democratic friends—who might not be willing to delay the implementation of the overtime rule, who believe it should go up, who believe it should go up as high as the President has proposed but not as fast as the President has proposed, and who believe the rule has created a problem for nonprofits, such as the Boy Scouts, or surgeries for cleft palates or church camps. I hope they will seriously consider the proposal I have made today, along with Senators COLLINS, LANKFORD, SCOTT, and FLAKE.

Over the next 5 weeks between now and the election, we will all be home. We will have a chance to see our Boy Scout leaders. We will have a chance to see our doctors and visit our churches. We can go by our colleges and ask how much this is going to raise the tuition at Maryville College, the University of Tennessee, the University of Wyoming, or wherever we may be. And if the fact is that most Americans feel that to impose this salary threshold on December 1 is too high and too fast, there will be two alternatives when we come back. One is to delay the rule for 6 months, and the other is to raise the threshold just as high as the President proposed but do it over 5 years. Take half of the increase in the first year, no increase the second year, and exempt nonprofits, state and local governments, and many Medicare- and Medicaid-eligible facilities if they are negatively affected. This is similar to the commonsense proposal that Congressman COOPER talked about, that 11 Democrats as well as 7 Republicans have signed on to in the House, and that I hope will have serious consideration here.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I wish to join Senator ALEXANDER in discussing this overtime rule.

As he mentioned multiple times, Senator COLLINS and I dropped a companion bill here in the Senate that was passed in the House that delays the overtime rule's implementation by 6 months. As he also mentioned, I am most certainly a cosponsor of his bill as well. That is another approach, and, quite frankly, we are all looking for different approaches to be able to ac-

complish something that needs to be done and needs to be done immediately; that is, to address a regulation which has been put in place that can have serious, I believe, unintended consequences but most certainly serious consequences across our economy.

That is not an accusation that this administration wants to be able to damage the economy, wants to be able to damage small businesses, or wants to be able to damage universities and nonprofits. But I believe absolutely that is what is occurring. I am concerned, though, that the administration seems to have been deaf to the message that has come up over and over again from many of us in the Congress to be able to highlight that these are serious issues. Have you evaluated them?

The Small Business Administration even has real concerns that the data they presented to the Department of Labor was not used, and the advocate for small businesses within the Department of Labor is challenging the Department of Labor to say: Why didn't you use the data that we provided to be able to evaluate this?

There are a lot of questions about how the regulation itself was promulgated or what the end goal is, but let me tell you what the real consequences are on the ground. I will give a couple of hypothetical situations, and then I will go into some practical ones.

Right now, a single mom with a couple of kids at home is able to telecommute into work a couple of days from her particular job as maybe a sales marketing manager. She can be in the office for 3 days, telecommute a couple of days, save child care costs, and this gives her some flexibility. Under this rule, those same places would not typically allow someone to telecommute because they have to see exactly the hours that someone is working. So she would have to physically be present in the office every day so the work hours could be tracked, removing that flexibility and causing her increased child care costs and actually moving her to more of a situation where she is in a more structured environment, less suitable for her kids.

I will give another thought on this. What if we reach into a situation that many of us face as many of the millennials now leaving college are going into the workforce, well-trained, well-equipped, wanting to get an assistant manager's position or wanting to be able to work into a salaried position. It will be much more difficult for those individuals coming out of college now to land a salaried position because, overall, companies around the country that are hiring don't want to hire salaried positions anymore; they want to be able to hire hourly people. So it will be tougher for the generation coming out of college right now to be able to land in those early management positions.

Is that a hypothetical situation? No. I would say it is already occurring. It

is already happening around the country. When I was home in August, traveling around the State, this overtime regulation was the No. 1 question that came up when I talked to any business owner, any business person, any manager. The first thing they raised was the coming overtime rule, both in its complexity and in trying to figure out how to be able to actually implement this into the cost of their business. The conversations were already occurring with employees where they were moving someone from a salaried position to an hourly position, and their employees hated it because they liked working to a spot where they were in a salaried position.

During the August time period, I had a conversation with a youth pastor at a church. That youth pastor said they had left a conversation with their pastor just a couple of days before in which their pastor said: You are going to have to start documenting your hours—each hour that you are actually working with kids, even your time at home that you are preparing a Bible study to actually teach the kids—because we can't afford for you to go over 40 hours.

This is someone who feels a calling to be able to work with students, and literally their pastor has to tell them: I know you want to help. You can't help more than 40 hours. Most youth pastors don't go into youth ministry because they anticipate getting wealthy in it. They go into it because of a sense of calling and passion to be able to help students. This regulation is telling that person: Turn down your passion to work with the next generation. You are limited in what you can actually do, and, if you choose to volunteer beyond that, you put your employer, that church, at risk.

The Osage Nation—their HR folks, William Scott Johnson, said this:

I'm an HR professional at the Osage Nation and am concerned about the impact that changes to the overtime regulations will have on my organization and employees. NAFOA has heard from tribal governments who are concerned the use of a single national salary threshold would adversely affect already limited revenues, especially for tribes in rural areas.

From the YWCA battered women's shelter:

I'm a human resource (HR) committee member at the YWCA Battered Women's Shelter and am concerned about the impact that changes to the overtime regulations will have on this nonprofit organization and employees. All employees make less than \$50,000 except top management. The impact of this new legislation could be catastrophic for payroll as employees will have to be moved from exempt to non-exempt status simply due to the salary base being proposed.

The Counseling & Recovery Services of Tulsa, Oklahoma, wrote me:

I am the executive human resource (HR) professional at Counseling & Recovery Services of Oklahoma, a nonprofit community mental health center, and am concerned about the impact that changes to the overtime regulations will have on my organization and employees. As a nonprofit, our

agency is clinical staffing heavy; thus, about 80% of our workforce . . . will be impacted. The costs to meet the proposed regulations are expected to be in the 100s of thousands [of dollars] and will have a devastating impact to the community mental health industry overall.

I received a note from a small business owner in Edmond, right in my hometown. They said:

The proposed changes will require us to make significant changes [in the way we do business]. If the proposed salary threshold moves forward, we will be forced to change all our employees to hourly, which will result in the elimination of our bonus program. Our salaried managers make a significant amount of their income based on performance bonuses. Calculating bonuses for employees that have potential overtime is extremely complicated, labor intensive and opens up a huge liability risk if miscalculations occur.

One of the universities in my State wrote me and said about this rule:

Essentially, it would turn millions of dollars of professional, salaried jobs into hourly positions overnight, resulting in limited flexibility for workers and increased costs for colleges, universities, other nonprofits and public-sector employers that operate on very tight budgets as we attempt to keep the cost of education as low as possible for constituents.

We do not disagree that overtime rules need to be updated to ensure the law remains relevant for today's workforce. But we're deeply concerned about the unintended consequences of a massive increase in such a narrow implementation window which will impose serious hardships on our students, employees and institutions.

Last week, I met with leadership of the Department of Labor in a hearing. We discussed this exact issue. I talked about nonprofits and what a unique dynamic they really are. Nonprofits actually raise money based on their low administrative costs. They can tell donors: The money that you give will get directly to the individuals who need it most because our administrative overhead is low. This overtime regulation will increase their administrative overhead and will make it harder for them to raise money.

When I raised that issue to the Department of Labor, the officials of the Department of Labor told me: We understand that, so we met with the leadership of some of the nonprofit foundations around the country and told them that they should donate more to be able to cover the increased costs.

That has to be one of the most out-of-touch statements I have ever heard from someone in the Federal Government. In shock, my response was to say: Do you know how many hundreds of thousands of nonprofits are in the country? You met with a few foundations and told those foundations that they should donate more to be able to cover, when almost every church and almost every small nonprofit around the country that deals with mental health, that deals with domestic violence shelters are not tapping into big, massive foundations. They are individuals within communities that donate, and they anticipate their donations are going to help those of greatest need.

The people who work in those nonprofits are most often volunteers, but the very few numbers of individuals within the nonprofits who are paid salaries make a meager salary because they choose to—because they have a passion for the work of helping in domestic shelters or helping at a church or helping reach out to people who are in poverty or helping with a clothing shelter or a food pantry. Now you are forcing those organizations to dramatically increase salaries, which will dramatically decrease services to those in greatest need across our country.

I am astounded that the administration believes they can talk to a few people in a few foundations and just tell them: Donate more, and that will fix this. There aren't more donors to just donate more.

There are real needs in a lot of communities around the country. Small business owners that I have spoken to of late all tell me about the complexity of this. It is not just a matter of every employee. There is a tremendous number of exemptions as they work through the process. They want more time, and they don't like the cost increase. They don't like what this is doing to their relationships within their businesses, and they do not like telling salaried employees: I'm sorry, you're going to have to move to hourly.

All of this headache was created by an administration that knew all of this in advance. The letters that I read earlier—those letters that were written to me I presented to the Department of Labor a year ago. The Secretary of Labor assured me they would take those things into account. We have seen the final rule. I can assure you, they were not taken into account.

As tuition goes up in universities, this administration needs to stop complaining about the high cost of tuition in higher education because this overtime rule will directly increase the cost of tuition in every university in the country.

On the day the final rule was proposed, the first text message I received about it was from a university president who texted me and said: Don't blame me next year when tuition goes up. There is no way I can stop it now.

I responded back to him: Don't blame me for this overtime rule. This is not one we put in statute. This is one the administration created.

All of us want to see workers protected. All of us want to see things happen well in the United States. But the way this rule was implemented, the short period of time in the implementation, the size of the salary increase, and the few exemptions that are put into place have created an incredibly toxic effect for business across the country, whether it is a large business, medium business, small business, university, nonprofit—and I haven't even mentioned local government, which will be forced to raise taxes to be able to cover the cost of this. All of them

are dramatically affected, and all of them are affected in a short period of time.

This is why Senator COLLINS and I proposed a bill that lines up with what the House has already passed to say: Delay this 6 months. Most businesses are just trying to figure out what in the world they do with this and how they handle the implementation. Delay it for 6 months.

I would say there is a tremendous amount we have to deal with on top of just the delay, but at a minimum let's delay it. There is no reason it has to go into effect right now, and it directly harms our economy in the days ahead.

These are serious issues. I hope the administration will take them seriously and understand the effect on the coming economy. I am very well aware that this administration will be out of office when most of the economic effects will be felt. But the economic effects will most certainly be felt by this economy, and the long-term effects for those individuals graduating from college right now, trying to land their first job in management, will be even tougher based on this one rule. There is no reason to do that to the next generation of leaders. There is no reason to raise tuition in every college. There is no reason to do this rule right now. I would challenge it to be readdressed and, at a minimum, to be delayed for 6 months.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I join my colleagues to call for action to prevent the version of the overtime rule that the U.S. Department of Labor finalized this past May from going into effect on December 1. I want to commend Chairman ALEXANDER, Senator SCOTT, and Senator LANKFORD for their leadership in this area.

Federal regulations can impose unexpected and costly requirements on small businesses, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations. The new U.S. Department of Labor rule on overtime pay is a prime example that could harm the very workers it intends to help, cause small businesses to curb hiring, and force universities and colleges to either raise tuition or cut programs.

The new rule will double the annual salary threshold from \$23,660 to \$47,476 for mandatory overtime, effective December 1.

While it is time for a reasonable update in the threshold, doubling the threshold overnight and with so little time for employers to prepare will have negative consequences. I have spoken with small businesses, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations across Maine, and it is clear that this huge and sudden increase in the threshold is far too much and too fast. Rather than producing bigger paychecks, this new rule is likely to produce reduced hours, benefits, and flexibility for Maine workers.

Many small employers in Maine have told me that they do not have the margins to pay overtime to salaried em-

ployees earning up to \$47,476. Some will have to shift their employees to hourly positions. Formerly salaried employees used to flexibility in their work schedules will have to track closely each hour they work each week, instead of being able to leave work to pick up a child at school without worrying about the impact on their paycheck.

The new rule is also a problem for those seasonal businesses in Maine that make an effort to keep their employees on the payroll all year round. In the summer and fall, these employees often work for more than 40 hours a week, but in the winter and spring, they usually work far fewer than 40 hours a week. The current system allows them to have a constant, consistent year-round salary that they can count on. The new overtime rule would upend that and result in many workers being moved from salaried to hourly positions or even being let go during winter months. This will make it harder for workers to make ends meet and harder for employers to retain high-quality employees.

Although the regulation is touted as a means of boosting employees' pay, a study commissioned by the National Retail Federation found that most employees would see no change in net pay. Instead, many employees would see their hours reduced to avoid overtime, while others would see their base wages, benefits, or bonus pay decreased in order to offset the added payroll expense.

Moreover, the National Federation of Independent Business, a leading voice for small business, has noted that the new overtime rule would particularly hurt small businesses in rural areas. The Maine Department of Labor believes that the rule would have a disproportionate economic effect on Maine businesses, where salaries and the cost of living are not as high as in other regions of the country. For instance, the cost of living in Bangor is roughly 37 percent lower than in Washington, DC. While \$47,476 might seem like a reasonable threshold for an employee living in a high-cost area like Washington, DC, it is the equivalent of a salary of more than \$74,000 in Bangor.

Businesses are not alone in their concern. Nonprofit organizations are also struggling with the impact on their workers and those whom they serve. The executive director for Habitat for Humanity in greater Portland states that the "new overtime rules will so drastically change our current compensation obligations that we may no longer be able to give our workers the benefits, schedules and other incentives that drew them to us in the first place." And he notes that "services to those in need will be reduced and organizational funding will decline as resources are spent on overhead instead of programs."

Indeed, nonprofit organizations would be among the hardest hit by this rule. Cutbacks in essential services are predicted by the Salvation Army,

youth services providers, home health care services, and blood centers throughout the country.

In addition, higher-education groups nationwide are urging the Department of Labor to take a more measured approach. When the final rule was published last spring, Molly Corbett Broad, the president of the American Council on Education, noted that "requiring such a dramatic and costly change to be implemented so quickly will leave many colleges with no choice but to respond to this regulation with a combination of tuition increases, service reductions, and, possibly, layoffs."

She went on to note that those harmed by the new rule will include "a wide array of non-faculty employees—from athletics coaches and trainers to admissions recruiters and student affairs officers—whose work is not well suited to hourly wage status and who will face diminished workplace autonomy and fewer opportunities for flexible work arrangements and career development."

This is not a theoretical concern. The University of Maine system would face an estimated \$14 million increase in annual operating costs if it restructured employees' pay to maintain the exempt status of these workers. To avoid changes in its salary structure that could force tuition increases or threaten university services, Maine's University System is conducting an arduous and costly position realignment that could still result in an increase in annual labor costs.

The overtime threshold has not been increased in a number of years and should be raised, but doubling virtually overnight and with so little time for employers to prepare will be extremely costly and damaging to small businesses, universities, nonprofit organizations, and so many other segments of our Nation's economy and our society.

That is why I am a cosponsor of the resolution of disapproval of this rule introduced by Chairman ALEXANDER and Senator SCOTT's Protecting Workplace Advancement and Opportunity Act, which would ensure a balanced approach to updating Federal overtime rules by requiring that any new regulation on overtime consider the impact on small business and nonprofits, differences in geographical regions, and impacts on lower-wage industries, startups, and workers.

Today I am joining Chairman ALEXANDER in introducing legislation that would phase in a more reasonable increase to the overtime threshold over five years. I am also cosponsoring another bill introduced today by Senator LANKFORD that would delay the effective date of the new rule by 6 months, from December 1, 2016, to June 1, 2017, to allow more time for Congress to work on this issue.

The flurry of bills on this topic is indicative of just how much concern there is about the potential harm this rule could inflict on the very workers it intends to help, on small businesses,

on students, on nonprofits, and on countless others.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in rejecting this onerous and ill-advised rule.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 590—COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES PROVIDED BY PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 590

Whereas on October 16, 1916, Margaret Sanger, her sister Ethel Byrne, and their activist friend Fania Mindell opened the first birth control health clinic in the United States in Brooklyn, New York, a groundbreaking and revolutionary act for women at that time;

Whereas their clinic was founded on the idea that women should have the information and care they need to live strong, healthy lives and fulfill their dreams;

Whereas Margaret Sanger in 1922 incorporated the American Birth Control League and in 1923 opened the first legal birth control center in the United States, the Birth Control Clinical Research Bureau, two organizations that would later merge to become Planned Parenthood Federation of America;

Whereas leading up to 1916, the two most common causes of death for women of childbearing age in the United States were tuberculosis and complications from pregnancy and childbirth;

Whereas over the past 100 years, gains in access to birth control, safe and legal abortion, and other reproductive health services have improved and transformed the lives of women, men, and young people in the United States and around the world;

Whereas for the past century, Planned Parenthood has helped lead massive changes in women's health and civil rights and has empowered millions of women, men, and young people worldwide to make informed health decisions, transforming the way they live, love, learn, and work;

Whereas Planned Parenthood has been at the forefront of fights for social change, including when the executive director of Planned Parenthood League of Connecticut challenged a law preventing the distribution of birth control, leading to the landmark 1964 Supreme Court ruling in *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 379 U.S. 926, which finally allowed married women across the country to have legal access to birth control;

Whereas Planned Parenthood health care providers and staff have played important roles in increasing access to safe and legal abortion, and have successfully advocated for measures that increase access to birth control, including the Affordable Care Act requirement that private insurance plans provide coverage for birth control with no out-of-pocket costs;

Whereas many leaders, including those in the domestic and global reproductive health,

rights, and justice communities, have worked alongside Planned Parenthood in accomplishing these achievements;

Whereas breakthroughs in women's health care, such as the legalization and expanded availability of birth control, have been named one of the biggest economic advancements for women in the past 100 years;

Whereas changes in women's access to reproductive health care have led to cultural shifts: in the United States, women are now nearly half the workforce, the sole or primary breadwinners in 40 percent of homes, and more than half of the college students;

Whereas from the single Brooklyn clinic in 1916, Planned Parenthood has grown to approximately 650 clinics across the United States, with partners in a dozen countries in Africa and Latin America;

Whereas today Planned Parenthood proudly provides high-quality, affordable health care, with 90 percent of services provided being preventive health care for women, men, and young people;

Whereas Planned Parenthood is the largest provider of sex education in the United States;

Whereas an estimated 1 in 5 women in the United States have been to a Planned Parenthood clinic for care at some point in their lives, and, for many people, a Planned Parenthood clinic may be the only place they can turn to for health care;

Whereas in a single year, Planned Parenthood clinics provide sexual and reproductive health care, education, information, and outreach to 2,500,000 women, men, and adolescents in the United States and almost 2,000,000 women, men, and young people globally through its global programs and partnerships, and over 72,000,000 people visit Planned Parenthood's website;

Whereas in the past 10 years, Planned Parenthood has nearly doubled services for male patients and expanded services for LGBTQ communities; and

Whereas Planned Parenthood's commitment to offer care and resources has grown over the past century and is stronger than ever as it enters into its second century: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the wide-ranging preventive services that Planned Parenthood Federation of America doctors, nurses, and staff provide every day to patients across the United States;

(2) recognizes that Planned Parenthood is a safety-net provider that reaches medically underserved people who are critically in need of compassionate care;

(3) declares that Planned Parenthood should not be defunded, attacked, or discriminated against for their role as a vital women's health care provider across the country; and

(4) affirms that Planned Parenthood remains an essential thread in the fabric of society, and it will be key in the next century to assisting millions of women, men, and young people in accessing the health care they need and deserve, no matter who they are or where they live.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, Congress has just passed a funding measure that will prevent a shutdown at the end of this week. As headlines across the country noted as the debate over this bill played out, it was delayed partly due to partisan attacks against women's health and one provider in particular—Planned Parenthood—that were shoehorned into the debate once again.

Colleagues, this year Planned Parenthood turns 100 years old. You can-

not look at the last 100 years and deny that monumental progress has been made with respect to women's health and rights—thanks to strong allies like Planned Parenthood. But that progress is what some members of this body want to roll back.

When the first Planned Parenthood opened in 1916, it was illegal for women to get information about how to prevent a pregnancy. It is not surprising that at the time, one of the leading causes of death for women in the United States was complications from pregnancy and childbirth.

From the get-go, Planned Parenthood said that women in America have a fundamental right to information about their reproductive health and access to care. It was about the right of all women to a healthy life and the pursuit of happiness.

In 1965, Planned Parenthood Connecticut fought and won the Supreme Court decision that made birth control legal for married women.

In 2010, Planned Parenthood was at the front lines of the battle, along with a lot of us here in the Senate, to ensure that birth control would be covered under the Affordable Care Act.

Today, an estimated one in five women in America has been to a Planned Parenthood clinic for care at some point in her life. Eight out of ten Planned Parenthood patients live in or near poverty. As tough as it is for them to make ends meet, Planned Parenthood is a place they can turn to for important medical care from a provider they trust.

Planned Parenthood at 100 years old has racked up some impressive points on the scoreboard. Each year Planned Parenthood provides educational programs to 1.5 million people. Planned Parenthood has doubled the number of health services it provides to men and has led the way in expanding access to health care for LGBT Americans. It has more than 650 health centers across the country and served two and a half million women and men last year.

In my home State of Oregon, more than 70,000 Oregonians are served by 11 Planned Parenthood centers. I know firsthand from visiting with Planned Parenthood officials throughout Oregon in Portland, in Lane County, in central Oregon, how important these centers are to the health care of Oregonians.

Planned Parenthood is at the heart of the revolution in women's health care over the last 100 years. It is the first place millions of American women turn to for health care—women from Portland, OR, to Portland, ME.

Here are some of the services Planned Parenthood provides: birth control and counseling; pregnancy tests; prenatal services; HIV tests; safe, legal abortion services; breast cancer screenings; HPV vaccinations; cervical cancer screenings and prevention; ovarian cancer screenings; PAP tests;

exams for sexually transmitted diseases; treatment for urinary tract infections; basic physical exams; adoption referrals; family practice services; and nutrition programs.

Despite all these critical services Planned Parenthood provides, every day, legislators attack Planned Parenthood.

The fact is this crusade against Planned Parenthood is a crusade against the fundamental and constitutionally-protected right of women to make their own decisions about their bodies.

Time and time again on the Senate floor and in debates with the other side, my Democratic colleagues and I have had to beat back the attempts to defund Planned Parenthood.

Here is my bottom line colleagues. This country has made 100 years of progress on women's health, and it's not going to move backward.

I urge my colleagues to honor the commitment to women's health and rights that Planned Parenthood has shown in the last 100 years by working in a bipartisan way to improve access to women's health care, instead of limiting it.

Let us allow more women and men to access the health care they need and deserve, no matter who they are or where they live. Let us work to uphold the fundamental right of all women to make their own reproductive choices and access quality health care. Let us continue funding for Planned Parenthood and end these partisan attacks against this bedrock American health provider.

Today, I am joined by 17 of my colleagues in introducing a resolution to formally recognize Planned Parenthood's immense contributions to progress for women's health and quality of life in America. It is time to end the unfounded attacks against Planned Parenthood and allow it to continue to provide critical health services for the next 100 years.

SENATE RESOLUTION 591—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 9 THROUGH OCTOBER 15, 2016, AS “NATIONAL CASE MANAGEMENT WEEK” TO RECOGNIZE THE ROLE OF CASE MANAGEMENT IN IMPROVING HEALTH CARE OUTCOMES FOR PATIENTS

Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. COTTON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 591

Whereas case management is a collaborative process of assessment, education, planning, facilitation, care coordination, evaluation, and advocacy;

Whereas the goal of case management is to meet the health needs of the patient and the family of the patient, while respecting and assuring the right of the patient to self-determination through communication and other available resources in order to promote high-quality, cost-effective outcomes;

Whereas case managers are advocates who help patients understand their current

health status, guide patients on ways to improve their health, and provide cohesion with other professionals on the health care delivery team;

Whereas the American Case Management Association and the Case Management Society of America work diligently to raise awareness about the broad range of services that case managers offer and to educate providers, payers, regulators, and consumers on the improved patient outcomes that case management services can provide;

Whereas through National Case Management Week, the American Case Management Association and the Case Management Society of America aim to continue to educate providers, payers, regulators, and consumers about how vital case managers are to the successful delivery of health care;

Whereas the American Case Management Association and the Case Management Society of America will celebrate National Case Management Week during the week of October 9 through October 15, 2016, in order to recognize case managers as an essential link to patients receiving quality health care; and

Whereas it is appropriate to recognize the many achievements of case managers in improving health care outcomes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of October 9 through October 15, 2016, as “National Case Management Week”;

(2) recognizes the role of case management in providing successful and cost-effective health care; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Case Management Week and learn about the field of case management.

SENATE RESOLUTION 592—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2016 AS “SICKLE CELL DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH” IN ORDER TO EDUCATE COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES ABOUT SICKLE CELL DISEASE AND THE NEED FOR RESEARCH, EARLY DETECTION METHODS, EFFECTIVE TREATMENTS, AND PREVENTATIVE CARE PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO SICKLE CELL DISEASE

Mr. SCOTT (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 592

Whereas sickle cell disease (in this preamble referred to as “SCD”) is an inherited blood disorder that is a major health problem in the United States and worldwide;

Whereas SCD causes the rapid destruction of sickle cells, which results in multiple medical complications, including anemia, jaundice, gallstones, strokes, restricted blood flow, damaged tissue in the liver, spleen, and kidneys, and death;

Whereas SCD causes episodes of considerable pain in the arms, legs, chest, and abdomen of an individual;

Whereas SCD affects an estimated 100,000 individuals in the United States;

Whereas approximately 1,000 babies are born with SCD each year in the United States, with the disease occurring in approximately 1 in 365 newborn African-American infants and 1 in 16,300 newborn Hispanic-American infants and is found in indi-

viduals of Mediterranean, Middle Eastern, Asian, and Indian origin;

Whereas more than 3,000,000 individuals in the United States have the sickle cell trait and 1 in 13 African-Americans carries the trait;

Whereas there is a 1 in 4 chance that a child born to parents who both have the sickle cell trait will have the disease;

Whereas the life expectancy of an individual with SCD is often severely limited;

Whereas, while hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (commonly known as “HSCT”) is currently the only cure for SCD and advances in treating the associated complications of SCD have occurred, more research is needed to find widely available treatments and cures to help patients with SCD; and

Whereas September 2016 has been designated as Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month in order to educate communities across the United States about SCD, including early detection methods, effective treatments, and preventative care programs with respect to SCD: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to hold appropriate programs, events, and activities during Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month to raise public awareness of preventative care programs, treatments, and other patient services for those suffering from sickle cell disease.

SENATE RESOLUTION 593—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 22, 2016, AS “NATIONAL FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS DAY” TO RAISE AWARENESS AND ENCOURAGE THE PREVENTION OF FALLS AMONG OLDER ADULTS

Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mrs. MCCASKILL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 593

Whereas individuals who are 65 years of age or older (in this preamble referred to as “older adults”) are the fastest growing segment of the population in the United States and the number of older adults in the United States will increase from 46,200,000 in 2014 to 82,300,000 in 2040;

Whereas more than 1 out of 4 older adults in the United States falls each year;

Whereas falls are the leading cause of both fatal and nonfatal injuries among older adults;

Whereas, in 2014, approximately 2,800,000 older adults were treated in hospital emergency departments for fall-related injuries and more than 812,000 of those older adults were subsequently hospitalized;

Whereas, in 2014, more than 27,000 older adults died from injuries related to unintentional falls and the death rates from falls of older adults in the United States have risen sharply in the last decade;

Whereas, in 2015, the total direct medical cost of fall-related injuries for older adults, adjusted for inflation, was \$31,000,000,000;

Whereas, if the rate of increase in falls is not slowed, the annual cost of fall injuries will reach \$67,700,000,000 by 2020; and

Whereas evidence-based programs reduce falls by utilizing cost-effective strategies, such as exercise programs to improve balance and strength, medication management, vision improvement, reduction of home hazards, and fall prevention education: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 22, 2016, as “National Falls Prevention Awareness Day”;

(2) recognizes that there are proven, cost-effective falls prevention programs and policies;

(3) commends the 72 member organizations of the Falls Free Coalition and the falls prevention coalitions in 43 States and the District of Columbia for their efforts to work together to increase education and awareness about preventing falls among older adults;

(4) encourages businesses, individuals, Federal, State, and local governments, the public health community, and health care providers to work together to raise awareness of falls in an effort to reduce the incidence of falls among older adults in the United States;

(5) recognizes the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for its work developing and evaluating interventions for all members of health care teams to make falls prevention a routine part of clinical care;

(6) recognizes the Administration for Community Living for its work to promote access to evidence-based programs and services in communities across the United States;

(7) encourages State health departments and State units on aging, which provide significant leadership in reducing injuries and related health care costs by collaborating with organizations and individuals, to reduce falls among older adults; and

(8) encourages experts in the field of falls prevention to share their best practices so that their success can be replicated by others.

SENATE RESOLUTION 594—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATION OF THE THIRD SATURDAY IN OCTOBER 2016 AS “NATIONAL ANIMAL RESCUE DAY” TO CREATE AWARENESS OF AND EDUCATE INDIVIDUALS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ADOPTION OF ANIMALS, TO CREATE A HUMANE ENVIRONMENT FOR ANY PET, AND TO ENCOURAGE ANIMAL ADOPTIONS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. WICKER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 594

Whereas between 7,000,000 and 8,000,000 companion animals are placed into animal shelters each year;

Whereas between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 companion animals are euthanized each year;

Whereas a greater awareness of dog fighting and abuse encourages individuals to rehabilitate animals that would otherwise be put to sleep or left in animal shelters or rescues;

Whereas there are more than 13,000 animal shelters throughout the United States in need of pet supplies, medical supplies, blankets, towels, cleaning supplies, food, educational materials about owning a pet, and information on how to screen out unqualified applicants and to provide the best pet match for a family;

Whereas increased knowledge and awareness of animal rescue programs throughout the United States will significantly reduce the number of cats and dogs that are euthanized and animals that have been rescued that are left in animal shelters;

Whereas “National Animal Rescue Day” will alleviate the problem of pet overpopulation, provide animals with good homes, and create awareness of, and financial and educational resources to alleviate, the problems animal shelters face each day;

Whereas “National Animal Rescue Day” will encourage individuals to make their homes available for animals in need; and

Whereas the third Saturday in October 2016 would be an appropriate day to designate as “National Animal Rescue Day”, to be commemorated with appropriate events that will increase the number of pet adoptions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the designation of “National Animal Rescue Day”—

(1) to create awareness of animal rescue programs throughout the year; and

(2) to be commemorated with appropriate events that will increase the number of pet adoptions.

SENATE RESOLUTION 595—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL VETERANS SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. VITTER, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. COONS, Mrs. ERNST, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:

S. RES. 595

Whereas the Armed Forces of the United States train individuals with the skills, discipline, and leadership necessary to establish and operate a successful business;

Whereas there are approximately 2,500,000 veteran-owned small businesses in the United States, employing nearly 6,000,000 individuals;

Whereas veteran-owned businesses make up nearly 10 percent of all businesses in the United States;

Whereas veterans account for more than \$1,200,000,000,000 in business receipts every year;

Whereas veterans are 45 percent more likely to be self-employed than non-veterans;

Whereas, from 2007 to 2012, veteran-owned small businesses grew at nearly twice the rate of non-veteran-owned small businesses;

Whereas women veterans’ business ownership has increased significantly, from 97,114 in 2007 to 384,549 in 2012;

Whereas the Office of Veterans Business Development of the Small Business Administration is dedicated to maximizing the availability and usability of small business programs for veterans, members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States, members of the Armed Forces of the United States serving on active-duty, transitioning service members, and the spouses, dependents, or survivors of those members and veterans;

Whereas the Small Business Administration serves more than 200,000 veterans, service-disabled veterans, women veterans, and military spouses annually;

Whereas, in 2014, the Small Business Administration increased loans to veterans by more than 100 percent, guaranteeing more than \$1,000,000,000 in small business loans;

Whereas the entrepreneurship training program of the Small Business Administration, Boots to Business, has trained more than 30,000 service members, veterans, and spouses of service members and veterans since launching in 2013;

Whereas the Small Business Administration will be hosting events honoring Na-

tional Veterans Small Business Week from October 31 through November 4, 2016;

Whereas the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate will be commemorating National Veterans Small Business Week during the week of October 31 through November 4, 2016; and

Whereas the week of October 31 through November 4, 2016, would be an appropriate time to celebrate National Veterans Small Business Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate joins with the Small Business Administration in—

(1) supporting the goals and ideals of National Veterans Small Business Week;

(2) celebrating the millions of people in the United States, especially the veterans of the United States and the spouses of those veterans, who benefit from the programs of the Small Business Administration; and

(3) expressing appreciation for the continued service to the United States by the veterans of the United States through small business ownership and entrepreneurship.

SENATE RESOLUTION 596—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2016 AS “PULMONARY FIBROSIS AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. KIRK, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 596

Whereas pulmonary fibrosis is a debilitating and ultimately fatal condition that causes progressive scarring in the lungs and generally has no known definitive cause;

Whereas as many as 200,000 individuals in the United States are known to suffer from pulmonary fibrosis, the majority of whom are between the ages of 50 and 75;

Whereas the average survival rate for the idiopathic form of pulmonary fibrosis is just 2.8 years and up to 80 percent of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis patients die within 5 years of diagnosis;

Whereas pulmonary fibrosis takes the lives of 40,000 individuals in the United States each year, approximately 1 death every 13 minutes;

Whereas many patients with pulmonary fibrosis are misdiagnosed for 1 year or longer after the patients are presenting with pulmonary fibrosis symptoms;

Whereas as of September 2016, there are no biomarkers for screening and testing for pulmonary fibrosis;

Whereas a cure or drug that is effective for all pulmonary fibrosis patients that would extend life or universally improve symptoms does not exist;

Whereas the symptoms of pulmonary fibrosis vary from person to person and include shortness of breath, a dry cough, fatigue, weight loss, and aching muscles and joints;

Whereas volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life for individuals with pulmonary fibrosis and the families of those individuals; and

Whereas developing more effective treatments for pulmonary fibrosis and providing access to quality care to individuals with pulmonary fibrosis requires increased research, education, and community support services: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2016 as “Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month;

(3) continues to support more robust and accelerated research to develop more effective treatments for pulmonary fibrosis and to ultimately find a cure for the disease;

(4) recognizes the courage and contributions of individuals with pulmonary fibrosis who participate in vital clinical trials to advance the knowledge of the disease; and

(5) commends the dedication of organizations, volunteers, researchers, and millions of individuals in the United States and abroad working to improve the quality of life for individuals with pulmonary fibrosis and the families of those individuals.

SENATE RESOLUTION 597—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2016 AS “NATIONAL KINSHIP CARE MONTH”

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 597

Whereas in September 2016, “National Kinship Care Month” is observed;

Whereas nationally 2,500,000 children are living in kinship care with grandparents or other relatives;

Whereas grandparents and relatives residing in urban, rural, and suburban households in every county of the United States have stepped forward out of love and loyalty to care for children during times in which biological parents are unable to do so;

Whereas kinship caregivers provide safety, promote well-being, and establish stable households for vulnerable children;

Whereas kinship care enables a child—

(1) to maintain family relationships and cultural heritage; and

(2) to remain in the community of the child;

Whereas kinship care is a national resource that provides loving homes for children at risk;

Whereas kinship caregivers face daunting challenges to keep countless children from entering foster care;

Whereas the Senate is proud to recognize the many kinship care families in which a child is raised by grandparents or other relatives;

Whereas the Senate wishes to honor the many kinship caregivers who throughout the history of the United States have provided loving homes for parentless children;

Whereas National Kinship Care Month provides an opportunity to urge people in every State to join in recognizing and celebrating kinship caregiving families and the tradition of families in the United States to help raise children; and

Whereas much remains to be done to ensure that all children have a safe, loving, nurturing, and permanent family, regardless of age or special needs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2016 as “National Kinship Care Month”;

(2) encourages Congress to implement policies to improve the lives of vulnerable children and families;

(3) honors the commitment and dedication of kinship caregivers and the advocates and allies who work tirelessly to provide assistance and services to kinship caregiving families; and

(4) reaffirms the need to continue working to improve the outcomes of all vulnerable children through parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), and other programs designed—

(A) to support vulnerable families;

(B) to invest in prevention and reunification services; and

(C) to ensure that extended family members who take on the role of kinship caregivers receive the necessary support.

SENATE RESOLUTION 598—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 2016 AS “FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH”

Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. REID, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. KIRK, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. FRANKEN, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 598

Whereas the earliest documented Filipino presence in the continental United States was October 18, 1587, when the first “Luzones Indios” arrived in Morro Bay, California, on board the Nuestra Senora de Esperanza, a Manila-built galleon ship;

Whereas the Filipino American National Historical Society recognizes 1763 as the year in which the first permanent Filipino settlement in the United States was established in St. Malo, Louisiana;

Whereas the recognition of the first permanent Filipino settlement in the United States adds a new perspective to United States history by bringing attention to the economic, cultural, social, and other notable contributions made by Filipino Americans to the development of the United States;

Whereas, with a population of approximately 3,898,739 individuals, the Filipino American community is the second largest Asian American and Pacific Islander group in the United States;

Whereas from the Civil War to the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts, Filipino American servicemen and servicewomen have a longstanding history of serving in the Armed Forces;

Whereas more than 250,000 Filipinos fought under the United States flag during World War II to protect and defend the United States in the Pacific theater;

Whereas, as of June 2016, certain family members of Filipino World War II veterans who are United States citizens or lawful permanent residents may apply through the Filipino World War II Veterans Parole Program of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services for parole into the United States to reunite with their families before their immigrant visas become available;

Whereas, in July 2016, the Senate passed by unanimous consent S. 1555 (114th Congress), a bill to award to Filipino veterans who fought alongside United States troops in World War II the highest civilian honor bestowed by Congress, a recognition for which Filipino World War II veterans have waited more than 70 years;

Whereas Filipino Americans continue to demonstrate a commendable sense of patriotism and honor;

Whereas 9 Filipino Americans have received the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force that can be bestowed on an individual serving in the Armed Forces;

Whereas the late Thelma Garcia Buchholdt, born in Claveria, Cagayan, on the island of Luzon in the Philippines—

(1) moved with her family to Alaska in 1965;

(2) was elected to the House of Representatives of Alaska in 1974;

(3) was the first Filipino woman elected to a State legislature; and

(4) authored a comprehensive history book entitled “Filipinos in Alaska: 1788–1958”;

Whereas Filipino American farmworkers and labor leaders such as Philip Vera Cruz and Larry Itliong played an integral role in the multiethnic United Farm Workers move-

ment alongside Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta, and other Latino workers;

Whereas Filipino Americans play an integral role in the United States healthcare system as nurses, doctors, and other medical professionals;

Whereas Filipino Americans have contributed greatly to music, dance, literature, education, business, journalism, sports, fashion, politics, government, science, technology, the fine arts, and other fields that enrich the landscape of the United States;

Whereas, as mandated in the mission statement of the Filipino American National Historical Society, efforts should continue to promote the study of Filipino American history and culture because the roles of Filipino Americans and other people of color have largely been overlooked in the writing, teaching, and learning of United States history;

Whereas it is imperative for Filipino American youth to have positive role models to instill in Filipino American youth—

(1) the significance of education, complemented by the richness of Filipino American ethnicity; and

(2) the value of the Filipino American legacy; and

Whereas Filipino American History Month is celebrated during the month of October 2016: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 2016 as “Filipino American History Month”;

(2) recognizes the celebration of Filipino American History Month as—

(A) a study of the advancement of Filipino Americans;

(B) a time to reflect on and remember the many notable contributions that Filipino Americans have made to the United States; and

(C) a time to renew efforts toward the research and examination of history and culture so as to provide an opportunity for all people of the United States—

(i) to learn more about Filipino Americans; and

(ii) to appreciate the historic contributions of Filipino Americans to the United States; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe Filipino American History Month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 599—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF OCTOBER 20, 2016, AS THE “NATIONAL DAY ON WRITING”

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. AYOTTE, and Mr. WICKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 599

Whereas people in the 21st century are writing more than ever before for personal, professional, and civic purposes;

Whereas the social nature of writing invites people of every age, profession, and walk of life to create meaning through composing;

Whereas more and more people in every occupation consider writing to be essential and influential in their work;

Whereas individuals who write continue to learn how to write for different purposes, audiences, and occasions throughout their lifetimes;

Whereas developing digital technologies expand the possibilities for composing in multiple media at a faster pace than ever before;

Whereas young people are leading the way in developing new forms of composing by using different forms of digital media;

Whereas effective communication contributes to building a global economy and a global community;

Whereas the National Council of Teachers of English, in conjunction with its many national and local partners, honors and celebrates the importance of writing through the National Day on Writing;

Whereas the National Day on Writing celebrates the foundational place of writing in the personal, professional, and civic lives of the people of the United States;

Whereas the National Day on Writing highlights the importance of writing instruction and practice at every educational level and in every subject area;

Whereas the National Day on Writing emphasizes the lifelong process of learning to write and compose for different audiences, purposes, and occasions;

Whereas the National Day on Writing honors the use of the full range of media for composing, from traditional tools, including print, audio, and video, to social media, including Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram, and Internet website tools, including blogs, wikis, and podcasts;

Whereas the National Day on Writing encourages all people of the United States and overseas to write, enjoy, and learn from the writing of others;

Whereas in 2015, the hashtag #WhyIWrite generated over 60,000 tweets and reached millions of people, encouraging students, from elementary school through the university level, athletes, authors, and artists from all over the world to participate; and

Whereas, on the National Day of Writing in 2016, the National Council of Teachers of English encourages all people of the United States to tell others #WhyIWrite through print, social media, or other means: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of October 20, 2016, as the “National Day on Writing”;

(2) strongly affirms the purposes of the National Day on Writing; and

(3) encourages educational institutions, businesses, community and civic associations, and other organizations to celebrate and promote the National Day on Writing.

SENATE RESOLUTION 600—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 26 THROUGH 30, 2016, AS “NATIONAL ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY WEEK”

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. REED, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. KIRK, Mr. PETERS, and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 600

Whereas the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development reports that approximately 36,000,000 adults in the United States lack the basic literacy and numeracy necessary to succeed at home, in the workplace, and in society;

Whereas the literacy of the people of the United States is essential for the economic and societal well-being of the United States;

Whereas the United States reaps the economic benefits of individuals who improve their literacy, numeracy, and English-language skills;

Whereas literacy and educational skills are necessary for individuals to fully benefit from the range of opportunities available in the United States;

Whereas the economy and position of the United States in the world marketplace depend on having a literate, skilled population;

Whereas the unemployment rate in the United States is highest among those without a high school diploma or an equivalent credential, demonstrating that education is important to economic recovery;

Whereas the educational skills of the parents of a child and the practice of reading to a child have a direct impact on the educational success of the child;

Whereas parental involvement in the education of a child is a key predictor of the success of a child, and the level of parental involvement in the education of a child increases as the educational level of the parent increases;

Whereas parents who participate in family literacy programs become more involved in the education of their children and gain the tools necessary to obtain a job or find better employment;

Whereas, as a result of family literacy programs, the lives of children become more stable, and the success of children in the classroom and in future endeavors becomes more likely;

Whereas adults need to be part of a long-term solution to the educational challenges faced by the people of the United States;

Whereas many older people in the United States lack the reading, math, or English-language skills necessary to read a prescription and follow medical instructions, which endangers the lives of the older people and the lives of their loved ones;

Whereas many individuals who are unemployed, underemployed, or receive public assistance lack the literacy skills necessary to obtain and keep a job, to continue their education, or to participate in job training programs;

Whereas many high school dropouts do not have the literacy skills necessary to complete their education, transition to postsecondary education or career and technical training, or obtain a job;

Whereas a large portion of individuals in prison have low educational skills and prisoners without educational skills are more likely to return to prison once released;

Whereas many immigrants in the United States do not have the literacy skills necessary to succeed in the United States; and

Whereas National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week highlights the need to ensure that each individual in the United States has the literacy skills necessary to succeed at home, at work, and in society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 26 through 30, 2016, as “National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week” to raise public awareness about the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy;

(2) encourages people across the United States to support programs to assist individuals in need of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy programs;

(3) recognizes the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy programs; and

(4) calls on public, private, and nonprofit entities to support increased access to adult education and family literacy programs to ensure a literate society.

SENATE RESOLUTION 601—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2016 AS “NATIONAL DYSTONIA AWARENESS MONTH” AND RAISING AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE DISORDER OF DYSTONIA

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 601

Whereas National Dystonia Awareness Month will raise public awareness and understanding of the disorder of dystonia, which has numerous manifestations affecting people of all ages, races, genders, and backgrounds;

Whereas National Dystonia Awareness Month will also foster understanding of the impact the various forms of dystonia have on the individuals who are affected and the families of those individuals;

Whereas dystonia is a neurological disorder presenting in various forms, characterized by involuntary muscle contractions that cause abnormal and often repetitive movements or postures;

Whereas symptoms of dystonia may impede the ability of an individual—

(1) to walk, as in generalized dystonia or limb dystonia;

(2) to control the posture of the head of the individual, as in cervical dystonia;

(3) to speak, as in spasmodic dysphonia or oromandibular dystonia;

(4) to see, as in blepharospasm; or

(5) to write, as in hand dystonia;

Whereas there are limited treatments and no cure for dystonia;

Whereas dystonia is commonly misdiagnosed, delaying access to appropriate medical care for those individuals who are affected;

Whereas countless friends, loved ones, spouses, and caregivers must shoulder the physical, emotional, and financial burdens that dystonia causes;

Whereas the severity of the symptoms of dystonia and the limited public awareness of the disease cause many patients to be isolated;

Whereas the dystonia community is uniting to cooperate on awareness efforts throughout September of 2016; and

Whereas the Benign Essential Blepharospasm Research Foundation, Dystonia, Inc., the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation, the National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association, and the National Spasmodic Torticollis Association are dedicated to—

(1) conducting research to find treatments and a cure for dystonia;

(2) fostering public awareness and understanding of dystonia;

(3) educating patients and their families about dystonia to improve the treatment of and care for patients; and

(4) providing support and encouraging individuals to become advocates, including by sponsoring annual patient education conferences, school-based educational programs, and local events to raise funds for dystonia research, education, advocacy, and awareness: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2016 as “National Dystonia Awareness Month”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Dystonia Awareness Month to raise public awareness and understanding of dystonia;

(3) recognizes the need for additional research to find a cure for all forms of dystonia; and

(4) encourages all people in the United States and interested groups to support National Dystonia Awareness Month through various appropriate ceremonies and activities—

(A) to promote public awareness of dystonia; and

(B) to foster the understanding of the impact of dystonia on patients and their families.

SENATE RESOLUTION 602—SUPPORTING THE INCLUSION AND MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT OF LATINOS IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. REID, Mr. UDALL, Mr. COONS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. HELLER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

S. RES. 602

Whereas Latinos are the largest ethnic group in the United States, with more than 56,600,000 Latinos making up 17.6 percent of the population of the United States;

Whereas the Latino community is projected to grow to nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ of the population of the United States by 2050;

Whereas Latinos should have greater representation in the decisionmaking process relating to, and management of, public land;

Whereas Latino conservation initiatives break down barriers, improve access to public land, and encourage outreach to, and new opportunities for, the Latino community to use public land;

Whereas Latino conservation efforts can range from outdoor activities, such as hiking and kayaking, to educational activities and community gatherings;

Whereas increased access to outdoor recreation opportunities encourages Latino families and youth to engage with the outdoors and demonstrate the commitment of the Latino families and youth to conservation;

Whereas each person should have the opportunity to discover his or her history, culture, and heritage by exploring and experiencing the public land of the United States;

Whereas access to green spaces provides for healthier and more active lifestyles, which helps address numerous health disparity issues facing the Latino community, such as diabetes, obesity, and cardiovascular disease;

Whereas the participation of Latinos in conservation efforts can encourage the interest and involvement of Latinos in careers in conservation;

Whereas the people of the United States must ensure that the public land and natural surroundings of the United States are protected for future generations; and

Whereas the members of the largest ethnic group in the United States, as the environmental stewards of tomorrow, will play a significant role in securing the future success and preservation of the public land of the United States, especially as that group continues to grow; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the role of Latinos in protecting and preserving the land, water, and wildlife of the United States;

(2) supports the inclusion and meaningful engagement of Latinos in environmental protection and conservation efforts; and

(3) encourages Latinos in the United States to participate in ceremonies, activities, and

programs that engage the community in the outdoors and bring awareness to the importance of conservation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 603—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING ON THE FIRST FRIDAY AFTER THANKSGIVING IN 2016 AS “NATIONAL ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS WEEK”

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. PERDUE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 603

Whereas 70 percent of all consumer spending in the United States is conducted via electronic payments;

Whereas electronic payments play a central role in promoting prosperity, commerce, and economic growth in the United States;

Whereas electronic payments involve purchases with credit, debit, and prepaid accounts, either in-store using a card or connected device or online;

Whereas payments companies in the United States enable individuals to gain access to rapid, convenient, and secure financial payments not otherwise available without electronic payments;

Whereas payments and technology companies in the United States are continually developing and deploying new, innovative electronic payments technologies to make commerce more secure, faster, accessible, and efficient to protect against fraud;

Whereas innovative electronic payments technologies support small businesses in the United States by providing secure, faster, accessible, and efficient solutions;

Whereas electronic payments are used by more than 8,000,000 merchants in the United States and the 1,200,000,000 payment cards in circulation allow individuals to conduct electronic payments through those merchants and with one another;

Whereas the value of electronic payments made on a mobile device was estimated to increase by 210 percent in 2016;

Whereas electronic payments companies processed more than \$5,000,000,000,000 in payments in 2015, and electronic payments are projected to increase to \$7,000,000,000,000 in 2017;

Whereas holiday spending accounted for nearly 20 percent of retail sales during 2015, and nearly 70 percent of all holiday sales are conducted via electronic payments;

Whereas, on Black Friday in 2015, for the first time more individuals in the United States shopped online than in retail stores, which could not have been possible without electronic payments companies;

Whereas the 7-day period after Thanksgiving accounted for more than 6.5 percent of electronic payments for the final quarter of 2015, and electronic payments totaled \$35,000,000,000 during that 7-day period;

Whereas the designation of National Electronic Payments Week is especially important to the electronic payments industry because it marks the start of the holiday season and includes Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, Cyber Monday, and Giving Tuesday; and

Whereas electronic payments play an integral role for consumers and merchants in the transfer of goods and services not only during the holiday season, but also throughout the year; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning on the first Friday after Thanksgiving in 2016 as “National Electronic Payments Week”;

(2) recognizes the significant contributions and great importance of electronic payments and the advantages electronic payments provide to consumers, merchants, small businesses, and the economy of the United States as a whole;

(3) appreciates the significant role that electronic payments play in the global marketplace;

(4) acknowledges the growth of electronic payments domestically and abroad; and

(5) desires to foster an environment that encourages continued innovation and enhanced security in electronic payments.

SENATE RESOLUTION 604—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF NOVEMBER 2016 AS “NATIONAL BLADDER HEALTH MONTH”

Mr. KIRK submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 604

Whereas tens of millions of people in the United States are affected by bladder diseases and conditions, including urinary incontinence, overactive bladder, underactive bladder, interstitial cystitis, nocturia, urinary tract infections, bladder cancer, urotrauma, and neurogenic bladder;

Whereas bladder diseases and conditions have a significant impact on health and quality of life, contributing to decreased physical activity (which can increase obesity levels and the risk of diabetes and cardiovascular disease), depression, social isolation, falls, sexual dysfunction, loss of self-esteem, hospitalizations, nursing home admissions, and even death;

Whereas bladder diseases and conditions result in costs to the United States economy estimated at more than \$70,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas bladder problems are highly stigmatized, and open dialogue generated by National Bladder Health Month can reduce stigma and empower providers and patients to have much-needed conversations about bladder health;

Whereas medical and behavioral research to better understand and maintain bladder health and treat bladder diseases is critically needed yet poorly recognized;

Whereas bladder diseases and conditions are common in military veterans;

Whereas more than 1 in 10 military service members injured in Afghanistan and Iraq have urotrauma injuries (damage to the urinary tract or reproductive organs);

Whereas 1 in 3 younger women veterans report overactive bladder, stress urinary incontinence, and painful bladder symptoms;

Whereas more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of veterans with spinal cord injuries suffer from neurogenic bladder;

Whereas bladder cancer is the fourth most commonly diagnosed cancer among Veterans Affairs Health System patients;

Whereas preventative campaigns and measures for diseases and conditions that are as extensive and expensive as bladder diseases and conditions are routine and accepted in common medical, societal, and public health practice, yet no preventative campaign or measure exists in a large, systematic fashion for bladder health; and

Whereas November 2016 is an appropriate month to designate as “National Bladder Health Month” since bladder health awareness has been promoted in November for more than 20 years; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the designation of November 2016 as “National Bladder Health Month”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 605— HONORING ARNOLD PALMER

Mr. TOOMEY (for himself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. NELSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 605

Whereas Arnold Palmer was one of the most popular professional athletes of all time, known affectionately as “The King” for his civility, modesty, and commitment to public service;

Whereas Palmer, with his charming personality and approachability, popularized the game of golf, introducing millions of people in the United States to the sport, many of whom became part of “Arnie’s Army”, a legion of fans worldwide;

Whereas Palmer was born in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, a small steel town at the western base of the Allegheny Mountains, east of Pittsburgh;

Whereas Palmer learned the game of golf at Latrobe Country Club, where his father Milfred “Deacon” Palmer served as the club professional and groundskeeper;

Whereas Palmer lived in his hometown for his entire life, where he stayed engaged in his community;

Whereas Palmer was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, a successful businessman, and a humanitarian;

Whereas Palmer opened the Winnie Palmer Nature Reserve, dedicated to the memory of his late wife, on the grounds adjacent to St. Vincent College;

Whereas Palmer served as honorary National Chairman of the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation for 20 years;

Whereas Palmer owned the Bay Hill Club and Lodge in Orlando, Florida, which hosts the Arnold Palmer Invitational to raise funds to benefit the Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women and Babies and the Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children, both of which are also located in Orlando, Florida;

Whereas Palmer was a prostate cancer survivor and raised funds to support the Arnold Palmer Pavilion, a cancer center near Latrobe, Pennsylvania;

Whereas Palmer was an amateur aviator who helped develop the airport in his beloved hometown and served on the Westmoreland County Airport Authority, which renamed the airport in Latrobe in honor of Palmer in 1999;

Whereas Palmer served his country for 3 years in the United States Coast Guard;

Whereas Palmer won 92 tournaments, including 7 major championships;

Whereas Palmer played in the Masters Tournament 48 times, winning in 1958, 1960, 1962, and 1964;

Whereas, in 2004, Palmer received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President George W. Bush;

Whereas Palmer was presented the Congressional Gold Medal on September 12, 2012, in recognition of his service to the United States in promoting excellence and good sportsmanship in golf; and

Whereas Palmer has received numerous other honors for his accomplishments in golf and his service to his community: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life and legacy of Arnold Palmer for his philanthropy, humanitarianism, and significant contributions to the sport of golf; and

(2) expresses its deepest sympathies and condolences to the family of Arnold Palmer on his death.

SENATE RESOLUTION 606—HONORING THE MEMORIES AND LEGACIES OF THE 3 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE ATTACK ON JULY 17, 2016, IN BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA, CONDEMNING THAT ATTACK, AND RECOGNIZING THE HEROISM OF LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL AND FIRST RESPONDERS

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COTTON, Mr. HATCH, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. VITTER, Mr. MORAN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. DAINES, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 606

Whereas, on July 17, 2016, a lone gunman in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, ambushed and opened fire on law enforcement personnel, killing 3 Baton Rouge law enforcement officers and wounding 3 additional officers at Benny’s Car Wash and Oil Change;

Whereas Corporal Montrell Jackson, a 10-year veteran of the Baton Rouge Police Department who was a husband, father, brother, and son and who loved his career and serving his community, was killed in the attack;

Whereas Deputy Brad Garafola, a 24-year veteran of the East Baton Rouge Sheriff’s Office and a beloved husband, father, and son who touched the lives of many individuals during his more than 2 decades of faithful service, was killed in the attack;

Whereas Officer Matthew Gerald, who honorably served the United States as a member of United States Marine Corps and the United States Army before joining the Baton Rouge Police Department in 2015, was killed in the attack;

Whereas 3 other Baton Rouge law enforcement officers were injured during this senseless attack;

Whereas this attack took place with the intention of targeting law enforcement officers;

Whereas Federal, State, and local law enforcement personnel performed their duties admirably during the attack and risk their lives every day to ensure the safety of the people of Baton Rouge; and

Whereas the people of the United States stand united with the community of Baton Rouge and the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims to support all of those individuals affected by the attack and to pray for healing and peace: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the attack of July 17, 2016, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana;

(2) honors the memory of the Baton Rouge law enforcement officers who lost their lives;

(3) recognizes the bravery, heroism, and dedication by Federal, State, and local law enforcement officials, emergency medical responders, and all of those individuals who offered support and assistance;

(4) offers sincere condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims;

(5) expresses hope that each individual who was wounded in the attack makes a full recovery; and

(6) stands united against violence and in support of those individuals who work every day to protect the communities of the United States and keep the United States safe.

SENATE RESOLUTION 607—RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL-INTELLIGENCE AGENCY ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. BURR, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 607

Whereas, in an effort to improve the imagery intelligence, mapping, and geodesy capabilities of the United States, the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (in this preamble referred to as “NIMA”), the predecessor of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (in this preamble referred to as the “NGA”), was founded on October 1, 1996, as a result of President William Jefferson Clinton signing into law the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1997 (Public Law 104-201; 110 Stat. 2422), which authorized the establishment of NIMA;

Whereas the NGA derives from legacy agencies, including the Defense Mapping Agency, the National Photographic Interpretation Center, the Defense Airborne Reconnaissance Office, the Central Imagery Office, and the Defense Dissemination Program Office, that played vital roles in the defense of the United States in conflicts dating back to World War II and contributed to the discipline of geospatial intelligence (in this preamble referred to as “GEOINT”) through imagery and mapping production;

Whereas the NGA has, throughout its 20-year history, provided GEOINT support to United States policy makers and military commanders in both war and peacetime during significant national security and natural disaster events, including—

- (1) the operations in the Balkans;
- (2) the response to Hurricane Katrina;
- (3) the operation that resulted in the killing of former al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden;
- (4) operations against state-sponsored terrorist organizations;
- (5) the humanitarian assistance responses to earthquakes in Haiti and Japan; and
- (6) the continued critical mission support to members of the Armed Forces in the Middle East;

Whereas, with military and civilian employees serving at the NGA headquarters in Springfield, Virginia, the NGA West Campus in St. Louis, Missouri, and additional locations throughout the United States, and with personnel deployed worldwide in more than 200 locations in 17 countries, the NGA produces timely mapping, charting, geodesy, and intelligence products to warfighters, first responders, civil authorities, policy makers, and the maritime and aviation communities;

Whereas the NGA motto describes the many missions that were combined 20 years ago upon the creation of the NGA, “Know the Earth, show the way, and understand the world”;

Whereas the NGA is the primary organization responsible for developing, maintaining, and enhancing the World Geodetic System 84 reference frame, the foundation for all of the Positioning, Navigation, and Timing systems of the Department of Defense, including the

Global Positioning System (commonly known as “GPS”);

Whereas the Maritime Safety Office of the NGA, which traces its lineage to 1869, collects, analyzes, and writes the Notices to Mariners that keep government, civilian, and international mariners informed about vital safety and navigational issues;

Whereas the NGA also supports commercial vessels worldwide with navigational products and warning messages;

Whereas, in addition to updating worldwide digital nautical charts that ensure safety of navigation to a broad base of users, the NGA has expanded to provide safety of navigation information to the aeronautical community;

Whereas, in recent years, the NGA has increased its—

(1) worldwide, industry-leading aeronautical safety library to more than 10,000 flight procedures made available to the Department of Defense; and

(2) vertical obstructions database from 4,000,000 features to more than 24,000,000 features;

Whereas the NGA has converted from paper maps to downloadable digital maps, reducing the amount of gear that pilots need to carry while ensuring that those pilots always have the latest information;

Whereas the NGA continues to be a constant source of innovation, aiding the efforts of the Department of Defense in counterterrorism and counterinsurgency operations by using new—

(1) intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance sensors and technologies; and

(2) analytic methods, including full-motion video, hyperspectral imagery, overhead persistent infrared, light detection and ranging, and activity-based intelligence;

Whereas the NGA continues to support warfighters and intelligence operators with dedicated efforts in global counterterrorism, counterproliferation, mission readiness, safety of navigation, and future weapons development;

Whereas, since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the men and women of the NGA have worked diligently to deter, detect, and prevent acts of terrorism by providing GEOINT support to United States and coalition forces in support of the Global War on Terror, including Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, Combined Joint Task Force–Horn of Africa, Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq, and Operation Inherent Resolve in Iraq and Syria;

Whereas the NGA is commendably pursuing new methods of intelligence collection and analysis to inform, complement, and add to the NGA’s support of warfighter requirements by—

(1) embracing innovative cost-sharing and risk-sharing constructs with the commercial electro-optical satellite industry; and

(2) looking to emerging commercial technology providers, including small satellite companies, that hold the promise of rapid technological innovation and potentially significant future cost savings to the taxpayers of the United States; and

Whereas the NGA has been awarded 3 Joint Meritorious Unit Awards reflecting the distinctive accomplishments of the personnel assigned to the NGA: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the men and women of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency;

(2) honors the professional men and women, past and present, of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency for their selfless service and dedication to the United States; and

(3) expresses gratitude to all the men and women of the National Geospatial-Intel-

ligence Agency for their past and continued efforts to provide timely, relevant, and accurate geospatial intelligence support to deliver overwhelming advantages to warfighters, defense planners, and national security policymakers in the defense and security of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 608—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 24, 2016, AS “NATIONAL ESTUARIES WEEK”

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. WARREN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. COONS, Mr. NELSON, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. REED, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. CARPER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 608

Whereas the estuary regions of the United States constitute a significant share of the economy of the United States, with as much as 43 percent of the gross domestic product of the United States generated in coastal shoreline counties;

Whereas the population of coastal shoreline counties in the United States increased by 39 percent from 1970 to 2010 and is projected to continue to increase;

Whereas not fewer than 2,100,000 jobs in the United States are supported by marine tourism and recreation;

Whereas the commercial fishing, recreational fishing, and seafood industries rely on healthy estuaries and directly support 1,839,000 jobs in the United States;

Whereas, in 2014—

(1) commercial fish landings generated \$5,500,000,000; and

(2) recreational anglers—

(A) took more than 68,000,000 fishing trips; and

(B) spent \$32,000,000,000;

Whereas estuaries provide vital habitats for countless species of fish and wildlife, including many species that are listed as threatened or endangered species;

Whereas estuaries provide critical ecosystem services that protect human health and public safety, including water filtration, flood control, shoreline stabilization, erosion prevention, and the protection of coastal communities during hurricanes and storms;

Whereas the United States has lost more than 110,000,000 acres of wetland, or 50 percent of the wetland of the United States, since the first European settlers arrived;

Whereas some bays in the United States that were once filled with fish and oysters have become dead zones filled with excess nutrients, chemical wastes, harmful algae, and marine debris;

Whereas changes in sea level can affect estuarine water quality and estuarine habitats;

Whereas the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.) provides that the policy of the United States is to preserve, protect, develop, and, if possible, restore or enhance the resources of the coastal zone of the United States, including estuaries, for current and future generations;

Whereas 25 coastal and Great Lakes States and territories of the United States operate a National Estuary Program or contain a National Estuarine Research Reserve;

Whereas scientific study leads to a better understanding of the benefits of estuaries to human and ecological communities;

Whereas the Federal Government, State, local, and tribal governments, national and community organizations, and individuals work together to effectively manage the estuaries of the United States;

Whereas estuary restoration efforts restore natural infrastructure in local communities in a cost-effective manner, helping to create jobs and reestablish the natural functions of estuaries that yield countless benefits; and

Whereas the week of September 17 through September 24, 2016, is recognized as “National Estuaries Week” to increase awareness among all people of the United States, including Federal Government and State and local government officials, about the importance of healthy estuaries and the need to protect and restore estuaries: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 17 through September 24, 2016, as “National Estuaries Week”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Estuaries Week;

(3) acknowledges the importance of estuaries to sustaining employment in the United States and the economic well-being and prosperity of the United States;

(4) recognizes that persistent threats undermine the health of the estuaries of the United States;

(5) applauds the work of national and community organizations and public partners that promote public awareness, understanding, protection, and restoration of estuaries;

(6) reaffirms the support of the Senate for estuaries, including the scientific study, preservation, protection, and restoration of estuaries; and

(7) expresses the intent of the Senate to continue working to understand, protect, and restore the estuaries of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 609—HONORING THE MEMORIES AND HEROIC ACTIONS OF THOSE KILLED, INJURED, AND AFFECTED BY THE FATAL BUS CRASH IN LAPLACE, LOUISIANA, ON AUGUST 28, 2016

Mr. VITTER (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 609

Whereas, on August 28, 2016, St. John the Baptist Parish firefighters and Louisiana State troopers were responding to the scene of an accident along I-10 Westbound in Laplace, Louisiana, when an undocumented immigrant driving a passenger bus lost control of the bus and crashed into a nearby vehicle;

Whereas 3 firefighters were thrown over the highway guardrail from the impact of the vehicle, falling more than 30 feet into alligator-infested water;

Whereas fellow firefighters, State troopers, and at least 1 civilian quickly responded to rescue the 3 overthrown firefighters;

Whereas Chief Spencer Chauvin, a 36-year-old who served the St. John the Baptist Parish Fire Department for 12 years and was a beloved husband and father of 2, died in the crash;

Whereas 21-year-old Jermaine Starr and 33-year-old Vontarous Kelly, both of Moss Point, Mississippi, and who were passengers in the vehicle impacted by the bus, were also killed in the crash;

Whereas 2 other firefighters sustained injuries and were taken to the hospital; and

Whereas more than 30 additional individuals were injured: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) mourns the tragic loss of Chief Spencer Chauvin, Jermaine Starr, and Vontarous Kelly;

(2) recognizes the bravery, heroism, and dedication of the firefighters, State troopers, and civilians who quickly responded to attempt to save the lives of the injured;

(3) offers sincere condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of Chief Spencer Chauvin, Jermaine Starr, and Vontarous Kelly; and

(4) expresses hope that each individual who was injured in the accident makes a full and quick recovery.

SENATE RESOLUTION 610—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE FIRST FRIDAY IN OCTOBER 2016 AS “MANUFACTURING DAY”

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BURR, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. KING, Mr. COONS, Mr. BROWN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KIRK, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. THUNE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. HOEVEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 610

Whereas according to the most recent data, manufacturers contribute \$2,170,000,000,000 to the United States economy;

Whereas that amount has steadily risen since 2009, when manufacturers contributed \$1,700,000,000,000 to the United States economy;

Whereas the manufacturing sector accounts for 12 percent of the gross domestic product (referred to in this preamble as “GDP”) of the United States;

Whereas for every \$1 spent in the manufacturing sector, another \$1.40 is added to the United States economy, the highest multiplier effect of any economic sector;

Whereas the manufacturing sector supports an estimated 18,500,000 jobs in the United States, approximately 1 in 6 private sector jobs in the United States;

Whereas more than 12,300,000 individuals in the United States, 9 percent of the workforce, are employed directly in the manufacturing sector;

Whereas, in 2014, on average manufacturing workers in the United States earned more than the average worker in all other industries in the United States, including pay and benefits;

Whereas manufacturers in the United States are the most productive manufacturers in the world, far surpassing the worker productivity of any other major manufacturing economy, leading to higher wages and living standards;

Whereas manufacturers in the United States drive innovation more than any other economic sector in the United States, spending \$229,900,000,000 in 2014 on research and development, an 82 percent increase from 5 years earlier;

Whereas measured by GDP, the manufacturing sector in the United States would

rank as the ninth-largest economy in the world; and

Whereas the first Friday in October 2016 would be an appropriate day to designate as “Manufacturing Day”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the designation of the first Friday in October 2016 as “Manufacturing Day”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 611—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF OCTOBER 8, 2016, AS “40 YEARS OF WOMEN CADETS AT THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY DAY”

Mr. GARDNER (for himself and Mr. BENNET) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 611

Whereas, in September 1972, the United States Air Force Academy (in this preamble referred to as the “Academy”) became the first service academy to prepare for the arrival of female cadets when it issued Operational Plan 36-72, “Integration of Females into the Cadet Wing”;;

Whereas, on October 8, 1975, the day after President Ford signed the Department of Defense Appropriation Authorization Act, 1976 (Public Law 94-106; 89 Stat. 531), which authorized women to attend military service academies, the Academy announced that the first class of women would be admitted on June 28, 1976;

Whereas, on January 13, 1976, the first woman to enter the Academy Preparatory School arrived;

Whereas, on June 28, 1976, the Academy became the first service academy to admit women when 156 women arrived as part of the class of 1980;

Whereas the first African-American women to attend the Academy arrived in 1976 and graduated in 1980;

Whereas the first Hispanic woman to attend any military service academy arrived at the Academy in 1976 and graduated in 1980;

Whereas, on August 15, 1979, a woman First Class Cadet from the Academy’s class of 1980 became the first Academy woman to complete a solo flight in the T-41 training aircraft;

Whereas, on May 28, 1980, the first 97 women graduated from the Academy;

Whereas, in 1981, 4 women at the Academy were the first Academy women named as All-Americans by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (in this preamble referred to as the “NCAA”);;

Whereas, on November 24, 1980, a woman cadet became the Cadet Wing Commander at the Academy for the first time;

Whereas, in 1981, a woman cadet at the Academy was selected as a Rhodes Scholar for the first time;

Whereas, in 1986, a woman cadet at the Academy received the Outstanding Cadet in Order of Graduation Award for the first time;

Whereas, in 1987, a woman graduate from the class of 1980 returned to the Academy as an Air Officer Commanding for the first time;

Whereas, on July 1, 1990, the women’s athletic program of the Academy officially became a member of the Colorado Athletic Conference;

Whereas, on January 13, 1993, a woman from the United States Air Force, and a member of the Academy’s class of 1980, flew into space for the first time aboard the space shuttle Endeavour;

Whereas, on April 14, 1994, a woman graduate of the Academy died in a combat zone

and received the Purple Heart award for the first time;

Whereas, in January 1995, a member of the Academy’s class of 1988 became the first woman to log United States Air Force fighter pilot combat time;

Whereas, in August 1996, women athletes at the Academy began their first year as NCAA Division I members;

Whereas, on June 25, 1998, an Academy graduate from the class of 1982 and a Rhodes Scholar became the first woman graduate of the Academy elected to Congress;

Whereas, in 1999, a member of the Academy’s class of 1998 became the first African-American woman to serve as a combat pilot;

Whereas, in 2004, a 1988 graduate of the Academy took command of the 354th Fighter Squadron, becoming the first woman in the history of the United States to command a combat aviation unit;

Whereas, on October 1, 2004, a member of the Academy’s class of 1983 became the first woman graduate of the Academy promoted to brigadier general and took office as Dean of the Faculty of the Academy;

Whereas, in November 2005, a member of the Academy’s class of 1996 became the first woman member of the United States Air Force’s aerial demonstration team, the Thunderbirds;

Whereas, in December 2005, a member of the Academy’s class of 1980 was the first woman Academy graduate to become Commandant of Cadets;

Whereas, on September 7, 2006, a member of the Academy’s class of 1980 became the first woman of Japanese descent from any military service to be promoted to flag officer;

Whereas, on June 19, 2008, a member of the Academy’s class of 1982 became the first woman of Korean descent from any military service to be promoted to flag officer;

Whereas, in 2009, a member of the Academy’s class of 2006 was the first woman Academy graduate killed by enemy action;

Whereas, on June 21, 2010, the Academy’s first woman Vice Superintendent, and a member of the Academy’s class of 1983, took office;

Whereas, on July 16, 2010, a graduate from the Academy’s class of 1984 became the first woman of Hispanic descent in the United States Air Force to be promoted to flag officer;

Whereas, on June 5, 2012, a member of the Academy’s class of 1980 became the first woman in the United States Air Force to attain the rank of 4-star general;

Whereas, in August 2013, a member of the Academy’s class of 1981 became the first woman Superintendent of the Academy;

Whereas, in August 2014, a member of the Academy’s class of 1993 became the first woman to command a United States Air Force bomb wing; and

Whereas, between 1976 and 2016, 5,381 women were commissioned through the Academy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of October 8, 2016, as “40 Years of Women Cadets at the United States Air Force Academy Day”;

(2) commends the extraordinary accomplishments of the women cadets and graduates of the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and the service to the United States of those cadets and graduates; and

(3) honors past, present, and future women who serve in the United States Air Force.

SENATE RESOLUTION 612—RECOGNIZING THE WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM DURING ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR FOR ITS HISTORY OF REDUCING THE ENERGY COSTS OF FAMILIES WITH LOW INCOMES, MAKING LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS HEALTHIER AND SAFER, POSITIVELY IMPACTING THE ENVIRONMENT, AND SUPPORTING JOBS AND NEW TECHNOLOGY

Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 612

Whereas Congress has long recognized the disproportionate energy burden on families and individuals with low incomes;

Whereas, in 1976, Congress and the Department of Energy developed the Weatherization Assistance Program (in this preamble referred to as the “WAP”) to increase the energy efficiency of dwellings owned or occupied by low-income individuals, reduce the total residential energy expenditures of those individuals, and improve the health and safety of those individuals, especially low-income individuals who are particularly vulnerable, such as the elderly, persons with disabilities, families with children, high residential energy users, and households with high energy burdens;

Whereas low-income households on average pay 7.2 percent of the income of those households on utilities, more than 3 times the amount that higher income households pay;

Whereas at least ¼ of low-income households in many regions experience an energy burden that is greater than 14 percent of household income;

Whereas nearly 9,000,000 families across the United States live in energy inefficient, unhealthy homes;

Whereas the WAP operates in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, 5 territories of the United States, and Indian tribal governments;

Whereas more than 7,400,000 homes have been weatherized since the inception of the WAP in 1976;

Whereas, in a typical year, the WAP produces more than \$300,000,000 in energy cost savings;

Whereas a typical low-income family saves between \$250 and \$450 per year after receiving weatherization services;

Whereas every dollar invested in weatherization returns \$4.10 to society in energy, health, and safety benefits;

Whereas children in households that receive weatherization services miss fewer days of school due to incidences of asthma, respiratory difficulties, and other health related issues;

Whereas investment in the WAP by the Federal Government and other sources supports more than 25,000 jobs across the United States in related industries;

Whereas the WAP decreases pollution and improves air quality;

Whereas the WAP has increased its impact through a strategic partnership with the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (commonly known as the “LIHEAP”) of the Department of Health and Human Services;

Whereas the WAP has implemented rigorous quality control standards and procedures;

Whereas the WAP has incorporated cutting edge technologies; and

Whereas, by decreasing the amount of personal income spent on home energy, the WAP makes housing more affordable, improves the quality of life for families with low incomes, reduces forced mobility, and increases the energy security of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the Weatherization Assistance Program for 40 years of reducing the energy burden of families with low incomes, making low-income households healthier and safer, positively impacting the environment, and supporting jobs and new technology;

(2) encourages the Weatherization Assistance Program to continue performing essential weatherization services in the future;

(3) applauds the dedicated professionals at the Federal, State, and local levels who run the daily operations of the Weatherization Assistance Program; and

(4) congratulates the Weatherization Assistance Program on the 40th anniversary of the Weatherization Assistance Program being signed into law on August 14, 1976.

SENATE RESOLUTION 613—RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF NORTH MISSISSIPPI RURAL LEGAL SERVICES IN OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI

Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 613

Whereas North Mississippi Rural Legal Services, originally called Lafayette County Legal Aid, was organized in 1966 as a training program for law students at the University of Mississippi School of Law;

Whereas North Mississippi Rural Legal Services was organized to combine the provision of legal services with a teaching program to develop a law school curriculum with a focus on the legal problems of low-income individuals, and North Mississippi Rural Legal Services was subsequently incorporated as an independent nonprofit corporation, receiving funds from the National Legal Services Corporation;

Whereas the mission of North Mississippi Rural Legal Services is to provide high-quality attorney representation and advocacy to ensure equal access to justice for vulnerable members of society through constant training, self-analysis, and community involvement;

Whereas North Mississippi Rural Legal Services provides the highest quality of legal and technical assistance, which improves the daily quality of life for low-income individuals and contributes to the attainment of social, economic, and legal equality;

Whereas North Mississippi Rural Legal Services is governed by a 25-member board of directors appointed by the Mississippi Bar, the Magnolia Bar, and local advisory committees;

Whereas North Mississippi Rural Legal Services has administrative offices in Oxford, Mississippi, and offices in Clarksdale, Greenville, and West Point, Mississippi, all of which strive daily to meet the unmet civil legal needs of low-income Mississippians;

Whereas there are more than 250,000 low-income individuals in the 39-county service area of North Mississippi Rural Legal Services, which, as of 2015, has served more than 17,000 Mississippians, providing access to the legal system that might otherwise be unavailable to those individuals due to their economic situation;

Whereas over the last 50 years, North Mississippi Rural Legal Services has partnered with various funders, attorneys, friends, and corporate and individual supporters to provide thousands of low-income clients with habitable and affordable housing, safety, healthcare, economic security, and financial independence while ensuring that each client maintains inherent human dignity;

Whereas 50 years ago, the journey began to provide high-quality legal representation to low-income Mississippians to ensure equal access to the courts of the State of Mississippi;

Whereas in 2016, North Mississippi Rural Legal Services continues the quest for justice to serve individuals and families regardless of race, age, gender, and ethnicity; and

Whereas the partnership between North Mississippi Rural Legal Services and the University of Mississippi School of Law continues the work of educating law students to increase the number of attorneys in the State of Mississippi who are sensitive to the needs of low-income individuals and knowledgeable in the areas of the law that affect those individuals: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and commends outstanding acts of public service like those of North Mississippi Rural Legal Services;

(2) with great pride, joins in paying tribute to North Mississippi Rural Legal Services, a most effective and public-spirited organization, the advocacy of which on behalf of less fortunate Mississippians is a matter of less record; and

(3) recognizes the 50th anniversary of North Mississippi Rural Legal Services in Oxford, Mississippi.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 55—COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1916 OPENING OF THE TEXAS A&M COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES AND THE 2016 OPENING OF THE NEW TEXAS A&M VETERINARY & BIOMEDICAL EDUCATION COMPLEX IN COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 55

Whereas the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences has experienced 100 years of growth from a small school of veterinary medicine in 1916 to its present role as a major veterinary and biomedical educational, medical, and research center;

Whereas the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences—

(1) serves the great State of Texas and the United States through advances in animal and human health;

(2) supports the livestock industry;

(3) provides viable and diverse professional career paths for Texans;

(4) promotes science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education;

(5) contributes to the economic viability and job opportunities of local communities;

(6) provides disaster and emergency response support for animals throughout the State of Texas; and

(7) advances the veterinary profession;

Whereas the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences has continuously evolved with a changing world to become a modern, dynamic, and highly respected college of veterinary medicine and is

one of the largest colleges of veterinary medicine in the United States;

Whereas, as of May 2016, the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences has graduated 7,576 veterinarians into the veterinary profession, contributing a \$4,000,000,000 economic benefit to the State of Texas;

Whereas, in 2015, Quacquarelli Symonds, an educational firm that ranks veterinary medicine schools, ranked the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences sixth in the world and third in the United States, which is testament to the hard work and dedication of generations of Aggie students, faculty, staff, and veterinarians;

Whereas the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences strives to improve the health and well-being of animals, humans, and the environment through—

(1) collaborative learning, discovery, and innovation in basic, applied, and translational research; and

(2) commercialization in biomedical sciences;

Whereas the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences offers research signature programs in biomedical genomics, toxicology and environmental health, infectious disease and biodefense, neuroscience, reproductive biology, cardiovascular sciences, and veterinary clinical research, with increasing strength in regenerative medicine;

Whereas one of the core values of the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences is service, and the Veterinary Emergency Team of the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences—

(1) is the largest and most sophisticated veterinary medical disaster response team in the United States;

(2) provides cutting-edge emergency management education;

(3) develops new knowledge in emergency preparedness and response; and

(4) develops emergency preparedness plans for local communities throughout the State of Texas;

Whereas the faculty, staff, and students of the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences contribute to ever-evolving societal needs through their mission of education, research, and service in the field of veterinary medicine;

Whereas, in addition to contributing to the veterinary workforce, the economic benefit of the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences includes the protection of the \$18,000,000,000 animal agriculture industry and the \$7,000,000,000 wildlife industry of the State of Texas;

Whereas the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences is developing an integrated system that connects distant communities and regions of the great State of Texas through strategic partnerships with the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Center;

Whereas the strategic partnerships with the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Center will leverage and synergize the strengths of the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, the Texas A&M System, and constituencies—

(1) to advance animal, human, and environmental health throughout the State of Texas;

(2) to invest in the young people of the State of Texas as they seek professional careers in veterinary medicine, biomedical sciences, and related disciplines; and

(3) to contribute to the stability and growth of the economy of the State of Texas; and

Whereas the new Texas A&M Veterinary & Biomedical Education complex—

(1) will house state-of-the-art classroom and teaching laboratory space that will enhance the learning environment for veterinary and biomedical science students;

(2) combined with the expansion of the small animal hospital, will—

(A) provide opportunities for innovations in teaching; and

(B) nurture collaboration and creativity; and

(3) will enable the recruitment of the best students, faculty, and staff to the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress commemorates the 100th anniversary of the 1916 opening of the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences and the 2016 opening of the new Texas A&M Veterinary & Biomedical Education complex in College Station, Texas.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5106. Mrs. FISCHER (for Mr. UDALL) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 122, supporting efforts to stop the theft, illegal possession or sale, transfer, and export of tribal cultural items of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians in the United States and internationally.

SA 5107. Mrs. FISCHER (for Mr. UDALL) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 122, *supra*.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5106. Mrs. FISCHER (for Mr. UDALL) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 122, supporting efforts to stop the theft, illegal possession or sale, transfer, and export of tribal cultural items of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians in the United States and internationally; as follows:

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This concurrent resolution may be cited as the “Protection of the Right of Tribes to stop the Export of Cultural and Traditional Patrimony Resolution” or the “PROTECT Patrimony Resolution”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this resolution:

(1) **NATIVE AMERICAN.**—The term “Native American” means—

(A) with respect to an individual, an individual who is a member of an Indian tribe (as defined in section 2 of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001)); and

(B) with respect to the cultural nature or significance of an item, right, or other object or concept, being of or significant to—

(i) an Indian tribe (as defined in section 2 of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001)); or

(ii) a Native Hawaiian organization (as defined in that section (25 U.S.C. 3001)).

(2) **TRIBAL CULTURAL ITEM.**—The term “tribal cultural item” has the meaning given the term “cultural item” in section 2 of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001).

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Tribal cultural items—

(A) have ongoing historical, traditional, or cultural importance central to a Native American group or culture;

(B) cannot be alienated, appropriated, or conveyed by any individual; and

(C) are vital to Native American cultural survival and the maintenance of Native American ways of life.

(2) The nature and description of tribal cultural items are sensitive and to be treated with respect and confidentiality, as appropriate.

(3) Violators often export tribal cultural items internationally with the intent of evading Federal and tribal laws.

(4) Tribal cultural items continue to be removed from the possession of Native Americans and sold in black or public markets in violation of Federal and tribal laws, including laws designed to protect Native American cultural property rights.

(5) The illegal trade of tribal cultural items involves a sophisticated and lucrative black market, where the items are traded through domestic markets and then are often exported internationally.

(6) Auction houses in foreign countries have held sales of tribal cultural items from the Pueblo of Acoma, the Pueblo of Laguna, the Pueblo of San Felipe, the Hopi Tribe, and other Indian tribes.

(7) After tribal cultural items are exported internationally, Native Americans have difficulty stopping the sale of the items and securing their repatriation to their home communities, where the items belong.

(8) Federal agencies have a responsibility to consult with Native Americans to stop the theft, illegal possession or sale, transfer, and export of tribal cultural items.

(9) An increase in the investigation and successful prosecution of violations of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (16 U.S.C. 470aa et seq.) is necessary to deter illegal trading in tribal cultural items.

(10) Many Indian tribes and tribal organizations have passed resolutions condemning the theft and sale of tribal cultural items, including the following:

(A) The National Congress of American Indians passed Resolutions SAC-12-008 and SD-15-075 to call on the United States, in consultation with Native Americans—

(i) to address international repatriation; and

(ii) to take affirmative actions to stop the theft and illegal sale of tribal cultural items both domestically and internationally.

(B) The All Pueblo Council of Governors, representative of 20 Pueblo Indian tribes—

(i) noted that the Pueblo Indian tribes of the Southwestern United States have been disproportionately affected by the sale of tribal cultural items both domestically and internationally in violation of Federal and tribal laws; and

(ii) passed Resolutions 2015-12 and 2015-13 to call on the United States, in consultation with Native Americans—

(I) to address international repatriation; and

(II) to take affirmative actions to stop the theft and illegal sale of tribal cultural items both domestically and internationally.

(C) The United South and Eastern Tribes, an intertribal organization comprised of 26 federally recognized Indian tribes, passed Resolution 2015:007, which calls on the United States to address all means to support the repatriation of tribal cultural items from beyond United States borders.

(D) The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes, uniting the Chickasaw, Choctaw, Cherokee, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations, passed Resolution 12-07, which requests that the United States, after

consultation with Native Americans, assist in international repatriation and take immediate action to address repatriation.

SEC. 4. DECLARATION OF CONGRESS.

Congress—

(1) condemns the theft, illegal possession or sale, transfer, and export of tribal cultural items;

(2) calls on the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Attorney General to consult with Native Americans, including traditional Native American religious leaders, in addressing the practices described in paragraph (1)—

(A) to take affirmative action to stop the practices; and

(B) to secure repatriation of tribal cultural items to Native Americans;

(3) supports the efforts of the Comptroller General of the United States—

(A) to determine the scope of illegal trafficking in tribal cultural items domestically and internationally; and

(B) to discuss with Native Americans, including traditional Native American religious leaders, relevant Federal officials, and other individuals and entities, as appropriate, the steps required—

(i) to end illegal trafficking in, and the export of, tribal cultural items; and

(ii) to secure repatriation of tribal cultural items to the appropriate Native Americans;

(4) supports the development of explicit restrictions on the export of tribal cultural items; and

(5) encourages State and local governments and interested groups and organizations to work cooperatively in—

(A) deterring the theft, illegal possession or sale, transfer, and export of tribal cultural items; and

(B) securing the repatriation of tribal cultural items to the appropriate Native Americans.

SA 5107. Mrs. FISCHER (for Mr. UDALL) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 122, supporting efforts to stop the theft, illegal possession or sale, transfer, and export of tribal cultural items of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians in the United States and internationally; as follows:

Strike the preamble.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 29, 2016, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Regional Impact on Syria Conflict: Syria, Turkey, and Iraq.”

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON REGULATORY AFFAIRS AND FEDERAL MANAGEMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management of the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 29, 2016, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Understanding the Millennial Perspective in Deciding to Pursue and Remain in Federal Employment.”

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

AMENDING TITLE 49, UNITED STATES CODE, WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN GRANT ASSURANCES

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5944, which was received from the House.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5944) to amend title 49, United States Code, with respect to certain grant assurances, and for other purposes.

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

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 5944) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

OMNIBUS TERRITORIES ACT OF 2015

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 583, S. 2360.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2360) to improve the administration of certain programs in the insular areas, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment, as follows:

(Strike the part in boldface brackets and insert the part printed in italic.)

S. 2360

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Omnibus Territories Act of 2015”.

SEC. 2. RESETTLEMENT AND RELOCATION FOR THE PEOPLE OF BIKINI.

[The first proviso under the heading “TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS” under the heading “OFFICE OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS” under the heading “DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR” in chapter VIII of title I of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1982 (Public Law 97-257; 96 Stat. 840), is amended by striking “in the Marshall Islands, principally on Kili and Ejit Islands”.

SEC. 3. RELIABLE AIR SERVICE IN AMERICAN SAMOA.

[Section 41703(c) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

[1] in paragraph (1), by striking “or” at the end;

[2] in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

[3] by adding at the end the following:

“(3) notwithstanding subsection (a)(1), the navigation under this subsection is necessary to provide and sustain air commerce in American Samoa between the islands of Tutuila and Manu’a.”]

SEC. 2. RESETTLEMENT AND RELOCATION FOR THE PEOPLE OF BIKINI.

The matter under the heading “TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS” under the head-

ing “OFFICE OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS” under the heading “DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR” in chapter VIII of title I of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1982 (Public Law 97-257; 96 Stat. 840), is amended by striking the first proviso and inserting “Provided, That such funds, including funds provided pursuant to the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1989 (Public Law 100-446; 102 Stat. 1774), shall be available for the relocation and resettlement of the Bikini people living on Kili and Ejit Islands, on the condition that the Secretary of the Interior submits to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a resettlement plan developed in coordination with the Bikini Atoll leadership: Provided further, That for any fiscal year, annual expenditures from the Resettlement Fund established by this section and pursuant to the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1989 (Public Law 100-446; 102 Stat. 1774) may not exceed an amount that is greater than 90 percent of the average annual earnings of the Fund for the preceding 5 years unless for resettlement purposes outside of the Marshall Islands.”.

SEC. 3. RELIABLE AIR SERVICE IN AMERICAN SAMOA.

Section 40109(g) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

“(C) review the exemption at least every 30 days (or, in the case of exemptions that are necessary to provide and sustain air transportation in American Samoa between the islands of Tutuila and Manu’a, at least every 180 days), to ensure that the unusual circumstances that established the need for the exemption still exist.”;

and

(2) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) RENEWAL OF EXEMPTIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Secretary may renew an exemption (including renewals) under this subsection for not more than 30 days.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—An exemption that is necessary to provide and sustain air transportation in American Samoa between the islands of Tutuila and Manu’a, may be renewed for not more than 180 days.

“(4) CONTINUATION OF EXEMPTIONS.—An exemption may continue for not more than 5 days after the unusual circumstances that established the need for the exemption cease.”.

SEC. 4. DRIVERS' LICENSES AND PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS.

(a) DEFINITION OF STATE.—Section 201(5) of the REAL ID Act of 2005 (49 U.S.C. 30301 note; Public Law 109-13) is amended by striking “the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.”.

(b) EVIDENCE OF LAWFUL STATUS.—Section 202(c)(2)(B) of the REAL ID Act of 2005 (49 U.S.C. 30301 note; Public Law 109-13) is amended—

(1) in clause (viii), by striking “or” at the end;

(2) in clause (ix), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(x) is a citizen of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau who has been admitted to the United States as a non-immigrant pursuant to a Compact of Free Association between the United States and the Republic or Federated States.”.

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment was agreed to.

The bill (S. 2360), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2360

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Omnibus Territories Act of 2015”.

SEC. 2. RESETTLEMENT AND RELOCATION FOR THE PEOPLE OF BIKINI.

The matter under the heading “TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS” under the heading “OFFICE OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS” under the heading “DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR” in chapter VIII of title I of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1982 (Public Law 97-257; 96 Stat. 840), is amended by striking the first proviso and inserting “*Provided*, That such funds, including funds provided pursuant to the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1989 (Public Law 100-446; 102 Stat. 1774), shall be available for the relocation and resettlement of the Bikini people living on Kili and Ejit Islands, on the condition that the Secretary of the Interior submits to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a resettlement plan developed in coordination with the Bikini Atoll leadership: *Provided further*, That for any fiscal year, annual expenditures from the Resettlement Fund established by this section and pursuant to the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1989 (Public Law 100-446; 102 Stat. 1774) may not exceed an amount that is greater than 90 percent of the average annual earnings of the Fund for the preceding 5 years unless for resettlement purposes outside of the Marshall Islands.”.

SEC. 3. RELIABLE AIR SERVICE IN AMERICAN SAMOA.

Section 40109(g) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

“(C) review the exemption at least every 30 days (or, in the case of exemptions that are necessary to provide and sustain air transportation in American Samoa between the islands of Tutuila and Manu’a, at least every 180 days), to ensure that the unusual circumstances that established the need for the exemption still exist.”; and

(2) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) RENEWAL OF EXEMPTIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Secretary may renew an exemption (including renewals) under this subsection for not more than 30 days.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—An exemption that is necessary to provide and sustain air transportation in American Samoa between the islands of Tutuila and Manu’a, may be renewed for not more than 180 days.

“(4) CONTINUATION OF EXEMPTIONS.—An exemption may continue for not more than 5 days after the unusual circumstances that established the need for the exemption cease.”.

SEC. 4. DRIVERS’ LICENSES AND PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS.

(a) DEFINITION OF STATE.—Section 201(5) of the REAL ID Act of 2005 (49 U.S.C. 30301 note; Public Law 109-13) is amended by striking “the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.”.

(b) EVIDENCE OF LAWFUL STATUS.—Section 202(c)(2)(B) of the REAL ID Act of 2005 (49 U.S.C. 30301 note; Public Law 109-13) is amended—

(1) in clause (viii), by striking “or” at the end;

(2) in clause (ix), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(x) is a citizen of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau who has been admitted to the United States as a non-immigrant pursuant to a Compact of Free Association between the United States and the Republic or Federated States.”.

UNITED STATES APPRECIATION FOR OLYMPIANS AND PARALYMPIANS ACT OF 2016

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5946, which was received from the House.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5946) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income any prizes or awards won in competition in the Olympic Games or the Paralympic Games.

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

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 5946) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

AMENDING THE WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE WATER RIGHTS QUANTIFICATION ACT OF 2010

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 651, S. 2959.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2959) to amend the White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act of 2010 to clarify the use of amounts in the WMAT Settlement Fund.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with amendments, as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are shown in boldface brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italics.)

S. 2959

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. USE OF FUNDS IN WMAT SETTLEMENT FUND FOR WMAT RURAL WATER SYSTEM.

[Section]

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF WMAT RURAL WATER SYSTEM.—Section 307(a) of the White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act

of 2010 (Public Law 111-291; 124 Stat. 3080) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by inserting “, (b)(2),” after “subsections (a)”.

(b) FUNDING.—Section 312(b)(2)(C)(i)(III) of the White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-291; 124 Stat. 3093) is amended by striking the period at the end and inserting the following: “, including the [WMAT rural water system in accordance with subsection (e)(4)] *planning, design, and construction of the WMAT rural water system, in accordance with section 307(a).*”.

Mrs. FISCHER. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendments be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendments were agreed to.

The bill (S. 2959), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2959

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. USE OF FUNDS IN WMAT SETTLEMENT FUND FOR WMAT RURAL WATER SYSTEM.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF WMAT RURAL WATER SYSTEM.—Section 307(a) of the White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-291; 124 Stat. 3080) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by inserting “, (b)(2),” after “subsections (a)”.

(b) FUNDING.—Section 312(b)(2)(C)(i)(III) of the White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-291; 124 Stat. 3093) is amended by striking the period at the end and inserting the following: “, including the planning, design, and construction of the WMAT rural water system, in accordance with section 307(a).”.

NEVADA NATIVE NATIONS LAND ACT

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2733, which is at the desk.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2733) to require the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust for certain Indian tribes, and for other purposes.

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

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion 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 bill (H.R. 2733) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ALYCE SPOTTED BEAR AND WALTER SOBOLEFF COMMISSION ON NATIVE CHILDREN ACT

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask that the Chair lay before the Senate the message from the House on S. 246, the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children Act.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 246) entitled "An Act to establish the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children, and for other purposes," do pass with an amendment.

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to concur in the House amendment be agreed to and the motion 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.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST CLASS OF WOMEN ADMITTED TO THE COAST GUARD ACADEMY

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 579 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 579) recognizing the 40th Anniversary of the first class of women admitted to the Coast Guard Academy.

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

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I further ask unanimous consent that 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. 579) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of September 26, 2016, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 600, S. Res. 601, and S. Con. Res. 55.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Chair lay before the Senate H. Con. Res. 166, which was received from the House.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 166) providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives.

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

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion 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 concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 166) was agreed to, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 166

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Wednesday, September 28, 2016, through Friday, November 11, 2016, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Monday, November 14, 2016, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. (a) The Speaker or his designee, after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the House to reassemble at such place and time as he may designate if, in his opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

(b) After reassembling pursuant to subsection (a), when the House adjourns on a motion offered pursuant to this subsection by its Majority Leader or his designee, the House shall again stand adjourned pursuant to the first section of this concurrent resolution.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 3464 AND H.R. 6094

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I understand there are two bills at the desk and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bills by title for the first time en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3464) to provide incremental increases to the salary threshold for exemptions for executive, administrative, professional, outside sales, and computer employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 6094) to provide for a 6-month delay in the effective date of a rule of the Department of Labor relating to income thresholds for determining overtime pay for executive, administrative, professional, outside sales, and computer employees.

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I now ask for a second reading, and I object to my own request, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bills will receive their second reading on the next legislative day.

REPORTING AUTHORITY

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the Senate's adjournment, committees be authorized to report legislative and executive matters on Thursday, October 27, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

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

APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

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

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the junior Senator from Louisiana be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions on Thursday, September 29, through Monday, November 14.

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

PROTECT PATRIMONY RESOLUTION

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 122, which is at the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 122) supporting efforts to stop the theft, illegal possession or sale, transfer, and export of tribal cultural items of American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians in the United States and internationally.

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

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Udall amendment to the concurrent resolution be agreed to; the concurrent resolution, as amended, be agreed to; that the Udall amendment to the preamble be agreed to; the preamble, as amended, 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 amendment (No. 5106) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the resolving clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This concurrent resolution may be cited as the "Protection of the Right of Tribes to Stop the Export of Cultural and Traditional Patrimony Resolution" or the "PROTECT Patrimony Resolution".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this resolution:

(1) **NATIVE AMERICAN.**—The term "Native American" means—

(A) with respect to an individual, an individual who is a member of an Indian tribe (as defined in section 2 of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001)); and

(B) with respect to the cultural nature or significance of an item, right, or other object or concept, being of or significant to—

(i) an Indian tribe (as defined in section 2 of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001)); or

(ii) a Native Hawaiian organization (as defined in that section (25 U.S.C. 3001)).

(2) **TRIBAL CULTURAL ITEM.**—The term "tribal cultural item" has the meaning given the term "cultural item" in section 2 of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001).

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Tribal cultural items—

(A) have ongoing historical, traditional, or cultural importance central to a Native American group or culture;

(B) cannot be alienated, appropriated, or conveyed by any individual; and

(C) are vital to Native American cultural survival and the maintenance of Native American ways of life.

(2) The nature and description of tribal cultural items are sensitive and to be treated with respect and confidentiality, as appropriate.

(3) Violators often export tribal cultural items internationally with the intent of evading Federal and tribal laws.

(4) Tribal cultural items continue to be removed from the possession of Native Americans and sold in black or public markets in violation of Federal and tribal laws, including laws designed to protect Native American cultural property rights.

(5) The illegal trade of tribal cultural items involves a sophisticated and lucrative black market, where the items are traded through domestic markets and then are often exported internationally.

(6) Auction houses in foreign countries have held sales of tribal cultural items from the Pueblo of Acoma, the Pueblo of Laguna, the Pueblo of San Felipe, the Hopi Tribe, and other Indian tribes.

(7) After tribal cultural items are exported internationally, Native Americans have dif-

ficulty stopping the sale of the items and securing their repatriation to their home communities, where the items belong.

(8) Federal agencies have a responsibility to consult with Native Americans to stop the theft, illegal possession or sale, transfer, and export of tribal cultural items.

(9) An increase in the investigation and successful prosecution of violations of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (16 U.S.C. 470aa et seq.) is necessary to deter illegal trading in tribal cultural items.

(10) Many Indian tribes and tribal organizations have passed resolutions condemning the theft and sale of tribal cultural items, including the following:

(A) The National Congress of American Indians passed Resolutions SAC-12-008 and SD-15-075 to call on the United States, in consultation with Native Americans—

(i) to address international repatriation; and

(ii) to take affirmative actions to stop the theft and illegal sale of tribal cultural items both domestically and internationally.

(B) The All Pueblo Council of Governors, representative of 20 Pueblo Indian tribes—

(i) noted that the Pueblo Indian tribes of the Southwestern United States have been disproportionately affected by the sale of tribal cultural items both domestically and internationally in violation of Federal and tribal laws; and

(ii) passed Resolutions 2015-12 and 2015-13 to call on the United States, in consultation with Native Americans—

(I) to address international repatriation; and

(II) to take affirmative actions to stop the theft and illegal sale of tribal cultural items both domestically and internationally.

(C) The United South and Eastern Tribes, an intertribal organization comprised of 26 federally recognized Indian tribes, passed Resolution 2015:007, which calls on the United States to address all means to support the repatriation of tribal cultural items from beyond United States borders.

(D) The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes, uniting the Chickasaw, Choctaw, Cherokee, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations, passed Resolution 12-07, which requests that the United States, after consultation with Native Americans, assist in international repatriation and take immediate action to address repatriation.

SEC. 4. DECLARATION OF CONGRESS.

Congress—

(1) condemns the theft, illegal possession or sale, transfer, and export of tribal cultural items;

(2) calls on the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Attorney General to consult with Native Americans, including traditional Native American religious leaders, in addressing the practices described in paragraph (1)—

(A) to take affirmative action to stop the practices; and

(B) to secure repatriation of tribal cultural items to Native Americans;

(3) supports the efforts of the Comptroller General of the United States—

(A) to determine the scope of illegal trafficking in tribal cultural items domestically and internationally; and

(B) to discuss with Native Americans, including traditional Native American religious leaders, relevant Federal officials, and other individuals and entities, as appropriate, the steps required—

(i) to end illegal trafficking in, and the export of, tribal cultural items; and

(ii) to secure repatriation of tribal cultural items to the appropriate Native Americans;

(4) supports the development of explicit restrictions on the export of tribal cultural items; and

(5) encourages State and local governments and interested groups and organizations to work cooperatively in—

(A) deterring the theft, illegal possession or sale, transfer, and export of tribal cultural items; and

(B) securing the repatriation of tribal cultural items to the appropriate Native Americans.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 122), as amended, was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 5107) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To strike the preamble)

Strike the preamble.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2016, THROUGH TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2016

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: October 3, at 10:30 a.m.; October 6, at 10:30 a.m.; October 7, at 2 p.m.; October 11, at 9 a.m.; October 13, at 2 p.m.; October 17, at 11 a.m.; October 20, at 3 p.m.; October 24, at 10:30 a.m.; October 27, at 10:30 a.m.; October 31, at 4:30 p.m.; November 3, at 2 p.m.; November 7, at 10:30 a.m.; November 10, at 10 a.m.; and November 14, at 5:30 p.m.; I further ask that when the Senate adjourns on Monday, November 14, it next convene at 4 p.m., Tuesday, November 15; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; I ask that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business until 5 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2016, AT 10:30 A.M.

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 1:32 p.m., adjourned until Monday, October 3, 2016, at 10:30 a.m.