ELECTRONIC DUCK STAMP ACT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, today I join several of my colleagues in support of S. 1496, the Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2005.

The Federal Duck Stamp Program has become one of the most popular and effective wildlife conservation programs ever initiated. Enacted in 1934, the Duck Stamp Act requires every waterfowl hunter to purchase a duck stamp in order to legally hunt migratory waterfowl. Through the purchase of the Federal duck stamp, sportsmen from across the country have contributed billions of dollars annually to the economy. Nearly $2 billion of this revenue has been used for wildlife conservation.

Times have changed and I believe it is time to modernize the way sportsmen buy duck stamps. The Electronic Duck Stamp Act will change the way Montana sportsmen and hunters across the country purchase their duck stamp. This concept follows on the heels of other programs used by sportsmen to purchase their hunting licenses, permits, and conservation stamps through means of the Internet. The 24-hour access to purchase these stamps will be especially useful in Montana and other States with rural communities. The e-duck stamp will be more cost effective and hunters will be able to forego a trip to town before heading to the field.

The Electronic Duck Stamp Act requires the Secretary of the Interior conduct a 3-year pilot program under which, hopefully, Montana and 14 other States may issue the electronic stamps. The price for the stamp will remain unchanged at $15. Stamps may be purchased over the phone or Internet giving sportsmen additional flexibility. Purchasers will receive immediate access to a verification number which will allow them to legally hunt waterfowl. This number will then eventually be replaced by an actual paper stamp.

This will be a very popular program and will benefit many American men and women who enjoy hunting waterfowl. I look forward to working with my Senate colleagues to pass this piece of legislation for not only my State of Montana but other States as well.

REPORT ENTITLED “CONTINUED PRODUCTION OF THE NAVAL PETROLEUM RESERVES BEYOND APRIL 5, 2006”—PM 25

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

To the Congress of the United States:
Consistent with section 7422(c)(2) of title 10, United States Code, I am informing you of my decision to extend the period of production of the Naval Petroleum Reserves for a period of 3 years from April 5, 2006, the expiration date of the currently authorized period of production.

Attached is a copy of the report prepared by my Administration investigating the necessity of continued production of the reserves consistent with section 7422(c)(2) of title 10. In light of the findings contained in the report, I certify that continued production from the Naval Petroleum Reserves is in the national interest.

GEORGE W. BUSH
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 4, 2005.

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. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):
S. 1315. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to prescribe the binding oath or affirmation of renunciation and allegiance required to be naturalized as a citizen of the United States, to encourage and support the efforts of prospective citizens of the United States to become citizens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SANTORUM:
S. 1316. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the manufacturing deduction provided by the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 with respect to income attributable to domestic production activities in Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DEMINT:
S. 1317. A bill to suspend the Davis-Bacon Wage rate requirements for Federal contracts in areas declared national disasters; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mrs. CLINTON):
S. 1818. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the manufacturing deduction provided by the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 with respect to income attributable to domestic production activities in any possession of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Mr. BEHRING):
S. 1819. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase participation and savings in cash or deferred plans through automatic contributions, default investment arrangements and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. FRENCH, and Mr. MCDERMOTT):
S. Res. 394. A resolution expressing sympathy for the people of Indonesia in the aftermath of the deadly terrorist attacks in Bali on October 1, 2005; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 392
At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURRE) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 392, a bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of Congress, collectively, to the Tuskegee Airmen in recognition of their unique military record, which inspired revolutionary reform in the Armed Forces.

S. 438
At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 438, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 492
At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICCI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 492, a bill to make access to safe water and sanitation for developing countries a specific policy objective of the United States foreign assistance programs, and for other purposes.

S. 595
At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 595, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the work opportunity credit and the welfare-to-work credit.

S. 695
At the request of Mr. DAYTON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 695, a bill to suspend temporarily new shipper bonding privileges.

At the request of Mr. BYRN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 695, supra.

S. 939
At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 910, a bill to require that health plans provide coverage for a minimum hospital stay for mastectomies, lpectomies, and lymph node dissection for the treatment of breast cancer and coverage for secondary consultations.

S. 1092
At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from
At the request of Mr. Lugar, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. Durbin) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1419, a bill to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media.

At the request of Mr. Dodd, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. Collins) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1479, a bill to provide for the expansion of Federal efforts concerning the prevention, education, treatment, and research activities related to Lyme and other tick-borne diseases, including the establishment of a Tick-Borne Diseases Advisory Committee.

At the request of Mr. Hatch, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. McCain) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1086, a bill to improve the national program to register and monitor individuals who commit crimes against children or sex offenses.

At the request of Mr. Chambliss, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Kennedy) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1119, a bill to permit an alien to remain eligible for a diversity visa beyond the fiscal year in which the alien applied for the visa, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Biden, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. Nelson) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. Domenici) were added as cosponsors of S. 1197, a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

At the request of Mr. Specter, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. Hagel) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. Murkowski) were added as cosponsors of S. 1179, supra.

At the request of Mr. Santorum, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. Isakson) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1321, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on telephone and other communications.

At the request of Mr. Enzi, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. Cochran) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1418, a bill to enhance the adoption of a nationwide interoperable health information technology system and to improve the quality and reduce the costs of health care in the United States.

At the request of Mr. Collins, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. Snowe) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1723, a bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to establish a grant program to ensure waterfront access for commercial fisherman, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Lieberman, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. Dayton) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1725, a bill to strengthen Federal leadership, provide grants, enhance outreach and guidance, and provide other support to State and local officials to enhance emergency communications capabilities, to achieve communications interoperability, to foster improved regional collaboration and coordination, to promote more efficient utilization of funding dedicated to public safety communications, to promote research and development by both the public and private sectors for first responder communications, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. Collins, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. Levin) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1738, a bill to expand the responsibilities of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction to provide independent objective audits and investigations relating to the Federal programs for Hurricane Katrina recovery.

At the request of Mr. Kennedy, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. Johnson) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1749, a bill to reinstate the application of the wage requirements of the Davis-Bacon Act to Federal contracts in areas affected by Hurricane Katrina.

At the request of Mr. Santorum, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. Cochran) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1780, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for charitable contributions by individuals and businesses, to improve the public disclosure of activities of exempt organizations, and to enhance the ability of low-income Americans to gain financial security by building assets, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. Bingaman, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. Stabenow) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1793, a bill to extend certain appropriations to primary airports.

At the request of Ms. Mikulski, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. Murkowski) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. Reed) were added as cosponsors of S. 1799, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that the reductions in social security benefits which are required in the case of spouses and surviving spouses who are also receiving certain government pensions shall be equal to the amount by which two-thirds of the total amount of the combined monthly benefit (before reduction) and monthly pension exceeds $1,200, adjusted for inflation.

At the request of Mrs. Feinstein, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr.
Wyden) was added as a co-sponsor of S. Res. 219, a resolution designating March 8, 2006, as “Endangered Species Day”, and encouraging the people of the United States to become educated about, and aware of, threats to species, success stories in species recovery, and the opportunity to promote species conservation worldwide.

S. Res. 242

At the request of Mr. Sessions, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. Roberts) was added as a co-sponsor of S. Res. 242, a resolution to express the sense of Congress that the President should appoint an individual to oversee Federal funds for the Hurricane Katrina recovery, and for other purposes.

S. Res. 262

At the request of Mr. Lautenberg, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. Boxer) was added as a co-sponsor of S. Res. 262, a resolution condemning the statements of former Education Secretary William J. Bennett.

AMENDMENT NO. 1883

At the request of Mr. Conrad, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. Hatch) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. Dorgan) were added as co-sponsors of amendment No. 1883 intended to be proposed to S. 1042, an amendment to be proposed to H.R. 2863, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1911

At the request of Mr. Snowe, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. Collins), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. Reed) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Leahy) were added as co-sponsors of amendment No. 1911 intended to be proposed to S. 1042, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction and defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1982

At the request of Mr. Kennedy, his name was added as a co-sponsor of amendment No. 1982 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2863, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1951

At the request of Mr. Salazar, his name was added as a co-sponsor of amendment No. 1951 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2863, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1963

At the request of Mr. Reed, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. Hagel) was added as a co-sponsor of amendment No. 1963 proposed to H.R. 2863, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1978

At the request of Mr. McCain, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Leahy) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DeWine) were added as co-sponsors of amendment No. 1978, a resolution to provide for H.R. 2863, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1990

At the request of Mr. Allen, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DeWine) was added as a co-sponsor of amendment No. 1990 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2863, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. Alexander (for himself and Mr. Corny

S. 1815. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to prescribe the binding oath or affirmation of renunciation and nationality required to be naturalized as a citizen of the United States, to encourage and support the efforts of prospective citizens of the United States to become citizens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Alexander. Mr. President, the Senator Corny and I are introducing legislation to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act. The legislation would be called the Strengthening American Citizenship Act.

Over the next several weeks, this body will be engaged in a debate about immigration reform. It is an essential debate which we must have in order to honor our commitment to the rule of law. I believe that real immigration reform must encompass three important steps.

First, we must secure our borders. Senators Corny, Kyl, McCain, and Kennedy have introduced differing legislation with that goal in mind. Second, we need to create a legal status for foreign workers and foreign students who come here. Corny-Kyl and McCain-Kennedy also address the question of workers. Later this month, I intend to introduce legislation to ensure that our immigration system creates an appropriate legal status for and welcomes the more than 550,000 foreign students who study at our universities and who, incidentally, contribute to our high standard of living by doing so. But there is a third step to any real immigration reform. After we secure our borders, after we create a legal status for foreigners who work here and study here, the third indispensable step is to help prospective citizens become Americans. That is why today I am introducing the Strengthening American Citizenship Act. I am pleased to be joined by Senator Corny in this effort.