AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 229. Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. Brown of Ohio) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 116, after line 24, add the following:

SEC. 504. PATRIOT EXPRESS LOAN PROGRAM. (a) Program.— (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(a)(31) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(31)) is amended by adding at the end the following: 

"(g) PATRIOT EXPRESS LOAN PROGRAM.— (1) DEFINITION.—In this subparagraph, the term ‘eligible member of the military community’ means—

(a) a veteran, including a service-disabled veteran; (b) a member of the Armed Forces on active duty who is eligible to participate in the Transition Assistance Program; (c) a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces; (d) the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces; (e) the widowed spouse of a deceased veteran; and

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.— (A) to establish a strategy to reduce Government printing costs during the 10-year period beginning on September 1, 2011; and

(B) to issue Government-wide guidelines for printing that implements the strategy developed under subparagraph (A).

"(b) LOAN GUARANTEES.—The Administrator may guarantee a loan under this paragraph by expressing lenders to eligible members of the military community.

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this subsection, a loan under this paragraph shall be made on the same terms as other loans under this program.

"(ii) FUNDING.—A loan guaranteed under this subsection, except for a loan guaranteed under subparagraph (g) of section 504(g)(14), shall be equal to 75 percent of the fee otherwise applicable under this paragraph.

"(c) LIMITATIONS.— (1) LOAN LIMITS.—In this section, a loan shall not exceed $500,000.

"(2) GAO REPORT.— (A) IN GENERAL.—In developing the strategy described in subparagraph (A), the Comptroller General of the United States shall ensure that printed versions of documents that the Director determines are necessary for execution of the programs are made available on Government Web sites instead of being printed.

"(3) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under subparagraph (B) shall include—

(i) the number of loans made under the programs;

(ii) a description of the impact of the programs on members of the military community eligible to participate in the programs;

(iii) an evaluation of the efficacy of the programs;

(iv) an evaluation of the actual or potential fraud and abuse under the programs; and

"(b) FEE REDUCTION.—Section 7(a)(18) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(18)) is amended—

"(1) in subparagraph (A), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “With respect to” and inserting “Except as provided in paragraph (C), with respect to”;

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) MILITARY COMMUNITY.—For an eligible member of the military community (as defined in section 34(c)(6)(B)), the fee for a loan guaranteed under this section, except for a loan guaranteed under subparagraph (G) of section 7(a)(31), shall be equal to 75 percent of the fee otherwise applicable under this paragraph.

"(d) REDUCTION OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING COSTS.— (1) STRATEGY AND GUIDELINES.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Comptroller General issues its report under section 34(c)(6)(B) of the Small Business Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall coordinate with the heads of the Executive departments and independent establishments, as those terms are defined in chapter 1 of title 5, United States Code—

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4) and (5) of section 34(c) as paragraphs (3), (4) and (5), respectively.

"(2) by redesignating paragraphs (3), as redesignated by section 34(c) of the SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2011, as paragraphs (3), (4) and (5), respectively.

"(3) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.— (1) SMALL BUSINESS ACT.—Section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)) is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (33); and

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (34) and (35), as redesignated by section 34(c), respectively.

(2) SMALL BUSINESS JOBS ACT OF 2010.—Section 113(b) of the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-240; 124 Stat. 2515) is amended by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following:

“(1) by striking paragraph (33), as redesignated by section 34(c) of the SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2011, and

“(2) by redesignating paragraph (34), as redesignated by section 34(c) of the SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2011, as paragraph (35).

“(d) REDUCTION OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING COSTS.— (1) STRATEGY AND GUIDELINES.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Comptroller General issues its report under section 34(c)(6)(B) of the Small Business Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall coordinate with the heads of the Executive departments and independent establishments, as those terms are defined in chapter 1 of title 5, United States Code—

(A) to develop a strategy to reduce Government printing costs during the 10-year period beginning on September 1, 2011; and

(B) to issue Government-wide guidelines for printing that implements the strategy developed under subparagraph (A).

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.— (A) IN GENERAL.—In developing the strategy described in paragraph (1), the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall consider establishing independent establishments to help ensure that printed versions of documents that the Director determines are
SA 230. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows.

Strike section 501 and insert the following:

SEC. 501. NATIONALLY IMPORTANT RESEARCH TOPICS AND CRITICAL TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) SBIR PROGRAM.—Section 9(g) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(g)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking “critical technologies” and all that follows and inserting the following: “nationally important research topics or critical technologies, including nationally important research topics or critical technologies identified by the Interagency SBIR/STTR Policy Committee;”;

(2) by adding after paragraph (12), as added by section 111(a) of this Act, the following:

“(13) encourages applications under the SBIR program (to the extent that the projects relate to the mission of the Federal agency);”;

“(A) from small business concerns in geographic areas underrepresented in the SBIR program or located in rural areas (as defined in section 1539(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986);”;

“(B) small business concerns owned and controlled by women;”;

“(C) small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans;”;

“(D) small business concerns owned and controlled by Native Americans;”;

“(E) small business concerns located in a geographic area with an unemployment rate that exceed the national unemployment rate, based on the most recently available monthly publications of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor;”.;

(b) STTR PROGRAM.—Section 9(o) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) is amended by adding after subsection (mm), as added by section 503 of this Act, the following:

“(nn) BIENNIAL REPORT ON NATIONALLY IMPORTANT RESEARCH TOPICS AND CRITICAL TECHNOLOGIES.—

(1) REPORT REQUIRED.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 2012, and every 2 years thereafter, the Interagency SBIR/STTR Policy Committee shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report that identifies nationally important research topics and critical technologies. For purposes of this subsection, a nationally important research topic or critical technology may include a research topic or technology that relates to nanotechnology, rare diseases, security, energy, transportation, improving the security of the electric supply of the United States, or the efficiency of water delivery systems.

“(B) CONTENTS.—Each report required under subparagraph (A) shall include, for each research topic or critical technology identified in the report—

“(i) the Interagency SBIR/STTR Policy Committee selected the research topic or technology;

“(ii) the state of the development of the research topic or technology in the United States and in other countries; and

“(iii) an estimate of the current and anticipated level of research and development efforts in the United States concerning the research topic or technology.

“(C) MAXIMUM NUMBER OF NATIONALLY IMPORTANT RESEARCH TOPICS AND CRITICAL TECHNOLOGIES.—A report submitted under subparagraph (A) may not identify more than 30 research topics and technologies as nationally important research topics or critical technologies.

“(D) DETERMINATION OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE.—

“(A) DETERMINATION.—The Interagency SBIR/STTR Policy Committee may identify a research topic or technology as a nationally important research topic or critical technology if the Interagency SBIR/STTR Policy Committee determines it is essential for the United States to develop the research topic or technology to further the long-term national security or economic prosperity of the United States.

“(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In making a determination under subparagraph (A), the Interagency SBIR/STTR Policy Committee shall consider—

“(i) reports by the National Academies of Science; and

“(ii) other nationally recognized strategic plans, strategies, and forecasts.

“(2) PROSPECTIVE REPEAL.—Effective September 30, 2016, section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638), as amended by this subsection, is repealed.

“(A) in subsection (g)(3), by striking “, including nationally important research topics or critical technologies identified by the Interagency SBIR/STTR Policy Committee”,;

“(B) in subsection (o)(3), by striking “, including nationally important research topics or critical technologies identified by the Interagency SBIR/STTR Policy Committee;”;

“(C) by striking subsection (nn).”;

SA 231. Mr. PAUL (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 4. REGULATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE IN NEED OF SCRUTINY.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Regulations From the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2011” or the “REINS Act”.

(b) FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.—

(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(A) Section 1 of article I of the United States Constitution grants all legislative powers to Congress.

(B) Over time, Congress has excessively delegated its constitutional charge while failing to conduct appropriate oversight and reducing accountability for the content of the laws it passes.

(C) By requiring a vote in Congress, this Act will result in more carefully drafted and better-delegated legislation, an improved regulatory process, and a legislative branch that is truly accountable to the people of the United States for the laws imposed upon them.

(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to increase accountability for and transparency in the Federal regulatory process.

(c) CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF AGENCY RULEMAKING.—Chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“CHAPTER 8—CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF AGENCY RULEMAKING

“Sec.

801. Congressional review.

802. Congressional approval procedure for major rules.

803. Congressional disapproval procedure for nonmajor rules.

804. Definitions.


806. Exemption for monetary policy.

807. Effective date of certain rules.


(1) Before a rule may take effect, the Federal agency promulgating such rule shall submit to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General a report containing—

“(i) a copy of the rule;

“(ii) a concise general statement relating to the rule;

“(iii) a classification of the rule as a major or nonmajor rule, including an explanation of the classification specifically addressing the criteria for a major rule contained within sections 804(2)(A), 804(2)(B), and 804(2)(C);

“(iv) a list of any other related regulatory actions intended to implement the same statutory provision or regulatory objective as well as the individual and aggregate economic effects of those actions; and

“(v) the proposed effective date of the rule.

“(B) On the date of the submission of the report under subparagraph (A), the Federal agency promulgating the rule shall submit to the Comptroller General and make available to each House of Congress—

“(i) a complete copy of the cost-benefit analysis of the rule, if any; and

“(ii) a summary of the agency’s analysis under title 5 of the United States Code, sections 603, 604, 605, 607, and 609;
Section 802. Congressional approval procedure for major rules

(a) For purposes of this section, the term ‘joint resolution’ means only a joint resolution introduced on or after the date on which the report referred to in section 801(a)(1)(A) is received by Congress (excluding days either House of Congress is adjourned for more than 3 days during a session of Congress), the matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows: ‘That Congress approves the rule described in the foregoing report and ordered to be printed in the 103d Congress, 1st regular session.’ (The blank spaces being appropriately filled in).

(1) In the House, the majority leader of the House of Representatives (or his designee) and the minority leader of the House of Representatives (or his designee) shall introduce such joint resolution described in this section (a) (by request), within 3 legislative days after Congress receives the report referred to in section 801(a)(1)(A).

(2) In the Senate, the majority leader of the Senate (or his designee) and the minority leader of the Senate (or his designee) shall introduce such joint resolution described in this section (a) (by request), within 3 session days after Congress receives the report referred to in section 801(a)(1)(A).

(b)(1) A joint resolution described in subsection (a) shall be referred to the committees in each House of Congress with jurisdiction under the rules of the House of Representatives or the Senate to report a bill to amend the provision of law under which the rule is issued.

(b)(2) If, before the passage by one House of a joint resolution described in subsection (a) is referred have reported, or when a committee or committees are discharged (under subsection (c)) from further consideration of a joint resolution described in subsection (a), it is not subject to amendment, or to a motion to postpone, or to a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business, shall be decided without debate.

(2) In the Senate, debate on the joint resolution, and on all debate motions and appeals in connection therewith, shall be limited to not more than 2 hours, which shall be divided equally between those favoring and those opposing the joint resolution. A motion to further limit debate is in order and is debatable. An amendment to, or a motion to postpone, or a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business, or a motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is disagreed to shall not be in order.

(c) In the Senate, if the committee or committees have been discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution described in subsection (a) is referred have not reported it at the end of 15 legislative days after its introduction, such joint resolution shall be automatically discharged from further consideration of the resolution and it shall be placed in the appropriate calendar. A vote on final passage of a joint resolution described in subsection (a) shall be taken on or before the close of the 15th legislative day after the resolution is reported by the Senate (or his designee) shall be decided without debate.

(d) If, before the passage by one House of a joint resolution described in this section (a) is referred have reported, or when a committee or committees are discharged (under subsection (c)) from further consideration of a joint resolution described in subsection (a), it is not subject to amendment, or to a motion to postpone, or to a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business, shall be decided without debate.

(e) Any motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is disagreed to shall not be in order.

(f) If, before the passage by one House of a joint resolution described in subsection (a) is referred have reported, or when a committee or committees are discharged (under subsection (c)) from further consideration of a joint resolution described in subsection (a), it is not subject to amendment, or to a motion to postpone, or to a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business, shall be decided without debate.

(g) Any motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is disagreed to shall not be in order.

(h) Motions to postpone, made in the House of Representatives with respect to the consideration of a resolution referred to in paragraph (1) shall be decided without debate.

(i) The chair relating to the application of the Rules of the House of Representatives to the procedures relating to a joint resolution shall be decided without debate.
subsection (a), that House receives from the other House a joint resolution described in subsection (a), then the following procedures shall apply with respect to a joint resolution described in subsection (a) of the House receiving the joint resolution—

`(1) the procedure in that House shall be the same as if no joint resolution had been received from the other House; but;

`(2) the vote on final passage shall be on the joint resolution of the other House.

`(g) The enactment of a resolution of approval, disapproval, or modification of statutory authority by Congress for the promulgation of a rule, does not extinguish or affect any claim, whether substantive or procedural, against any alleged defect in a rule, and shall not form part of the record before the court in any judicial proceeding concerning a rule.

`(h) The joint resolution and section 803 are enacted by Congress—

`(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, but applicable only with respect to the procedure to be followed in that House in the case of a joint resolution introduced in subsection (a) and it supersedes other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

`(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

§ 803. Congressional disapproval procedure for nonmajor rules

`(a) For purposes of this section, the term ‘joint resolution’ means only a joint resolution introduced in the period beginning on the date on which the report referred to in section 801(a)(1)(A) is received by Congress and ending 60 days thereafter (excluding days during which Congress is adjourned for more than 3 days during a session of Congress), the matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows: ‘That Congress disapproves the nonmajor rule submitted by the Federal agency promulgating the rule, does not extinguish or affect any claim, whether substantive or procedural, against any alleged defect in a rule, and shall not form part of the record before the court in any judicial proceeding concerning a rule.

`(b) (1) A joint resolution described in subsection (a) shall be referred to the committees in each House of Congress with jurisdiction—

`For purposes of this section, the term ‘submission or publication date’ means the later of the dates on which:

`(A) the Congress receives the report submitted under section 801(a)(1); or

`(B) the nonmajor rule is published in the Federal Register, if so published.

`(c) In the Senate, if the committee to which is referred a joint resolution described in subsection (a) has not reported such joint resolution (including joint resolution introduced at the end of 15 session days after the date of introduction of the joint resolution, such committee may be discharged from further consideration of such joint resolution upon a petition supported in writing by 30 Members of the Senate, and such joint resolution shall be placed on the calendar—

`(d) In the Senate, when the committee to which a joint resolution is referred has reported, or when a committee is discharged (under subsection (c)) from further consideration of a joint resolution described in subsection (a), it is at any time thereafter in order (even though a previous motion to the same effect has been disagreed to) for a motion to reconsider the vote by which the joint resolution is agreed to, or disagreed to, to be made to the motion. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the joint resolution is agreed to or disagreed to shall not be in order. If a motion to reconsider the joint resolution is agreed to, the joint resolution shall remain the unfinished business of the Senate until disposed of—

`(2) In the Senate, debate on the joint resolution, and all debatable motions and appeals in connection therewith, shall be limited to not more than 10 hours, which shall be divided equally between those favoring and opposing reconsideration of the joint resolution. A motion to further limit debate is in order and not debatable. An amendment, or to a motion to postpone, or a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business, or a motion to recommit the joint resolution is not in order.

`(3) In the Senate, immediately following the conclusion of the debate on a joint resolution described in subsection (a), and a single quorum call at the conclusion of the debate if requested in accordance with the rules of the Senate, the vote on final passage of the joint resolution shall occur—

`(4) Appeals from the decisions of the Chair relating to the rules of the Senate to the procedure relating to a joint resolution described in subsection (a) shall be decided without debate.

`(e) In the case of the procedure specified in subsection (c) or (d) shall not apply to the consideration of a joint resolution respecting a nonmajor rule—

`(1) the expiration of the 60 session days beginning with the applicable submission or publication date, or

`(2) if the report under section 801(a)(1)(A) was submitted referred to in section 801(d)(1), after the expiration of the 60 session days beginning on the 15th session day after the succeeding session of Congress first convenes—

`(f) If, before the passage by one House of a joint resolution of that House described in subsection (a), that House receives from the other House a joint resolution described in subsection (a), then the following procedures shall apply:

`(1) the joint resolution of the other House shall be referred to a committee—

`(2) with respect to a joint resolution described in subsection (a) of the House receiving the joint resolution—

`(A) the procedure is the same as if no joint resolution had been received from the other House; but—

`(B) the vote on final passage shall be on the joint resolution of the other House.

§ 804. Definitions

`(a) For purposes of this chapter—

`(1) the term ‘Federal agency’ means any agency as that term is defined in section 551;

`(2) the term ‘major rule’ means any rule, including an interim final rule, that the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of the Office of Management and Budget finds has resulted in or is likely to result in—

`(A) an annual effect on the economy of $100,000,000 or more; or

`(B) a major increase in costs or prices for consumers, industrial, individuals, Federal, State, or local government agencies, or geographic regions; or

`(A) significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or on the ability of United States-based enterprises to compete with foreign-based enterprises in domestic and export markets;

`(2) the term ‘nonmajor rule’ means any rule that is not a major rule; and

`(4) the term ‘rule’ has the meaning given such term in section 551, except that such term does not include—

`(A) any rule of particular applicability, including a rule that approves or prescribes for the future rates, wages, prices, services, or conditions of sale of corporate or financial structures, reorganizations, mergers, or acquisitions thereof, or accounting practices or disclosures bearing on any of the foregoing;

`(B) any rule relating to agency management or personnel; or

`(C) any rule of agency organization, procedure, or practice that does not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties.

§ 805. Judicial review

`(a) No determination, finding, action, or omission under this chapter shall be subject to judicial review.

`(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), a court may determine whether a Federal agency has completed the necessary requirements under this chapter for a rule to take effect.

§ 806. Exemption for monetary policy

“Nothing in this chapter shall apply to rules which concern monetary control or are implemented by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System or the Federal Open Market Committee.

§ 807. Effective date of certain rules

“Notwithstanding section 803—

`(1) any rule that establishes, modifies, opens, closes, or conducts a regulatory program for a commercial, recreational, or subsistence activity related to hunting, fishing, or camping; or

`(2) any rule other than a major rule which an agency for good cause finds (and incorporates the finding and a brief statement of reasons therefore in the rule issued) that notice and public procedure thereon are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest, shall take effect at such time as the Federal agency promulgating the rule determines.”.

SA 232. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 4, line 9, strike “2019” and insert “2025”.

On page 4, line 17, strike “2019” and insert “2025”.

SA 233. Mr. MERKLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 27, line 21, strike the quotation marks and the second period and insert the following:

“DEFERREMENT FOR PHASE III AWARDS.—

To the greatest extent practicable, in making Phase III awards, Federal agencies and Federal prime contractors shall give preference to applicants that will carry out projects in the United States.”.

On page 49, line 16, strike “and”.

On page 49, between lines 18 and 19, insert the following:

“(C) in subparagraph (C), by striking “and” at the end;
(D) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting ’;’; and
(E) by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(E) developing, manufacturing, and commercializing new technologies in the United States;’’.

On page 56, between lines 15 and 16, insert the following:

‘‘(5) INCREASING DOMESTIC CAPABILITIES.—In carrying out a pilot program, the head of a covered Federal agency shall give preference to applicants that, develop, manufacture or commercialize a product or service in the United States.’’.

On page 56, line 16, strike ’(5)’ and insert ’(6)’.

On page 57, line 1, strike ’(6)’ and insert ’(7)’.

On page 57, line 4, strike ’(7)’ and insert ’(8)’.

On page 60, line 7, after ’processes,’’ insert ’the following:’; ’giving preference to research conducted in the United States.’’.

On page 91, line 20, strike ’’and’’ at the end.

On page 91, line 22 and insert the following:

award; and

‘‘(4) whether the small business concern or individual receiving the Phase III award is developing, testing, producing, or manufacturing the product or service that is the subject of the Phase III award in the United States.’’. On page 105, line 2, strike ’’and’’. On page 105, lines 6 and 7, insert the following:

(C) means any Associate Administrator of the Administration relating to broadband and emerging information technology.

On page 107, between lines 10 and 11, insert the following:

SEC. 316. GAO STUDY AND REPORT ON DOMESTIC PRODUCTION, MANUFACTURING, AND COMMERCIALIZATION.

(a) STUDY.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 3 years thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) conduct a study that—

(A) determines the amount of production, manufacturing, and commercialization in the United States that resulted from awards under the SBIR and STTR programs during the applicable period; and

(B) estimates the number of jobs created as a result of awards under the SBIR and STTR programs during the applicable period; and

(2) submit a report to Congress that contains the results of the study under paragraph (1), together with recommendations, if any, for how to use the SBIR and STTR programs to increase production, manufacturing, and commercialization in the United States.

(b) APPLICABLE PERIOD.—In this section, the term ’applicable period’ means, for each report required under subparagraph (A), the 3-year period ending on the date that is 30 days before the date of the report.

On page 115, line 8, insert after ’programs’ the following: ’’; including the impact on production and manufacturing in the United States’’.

SA 234. Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself and Mr. KERRY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 439, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE VI—SMALL BUSINESS BROADBAND AND EMERGING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENTS

SEC. 601. BROADBAND AND EMERGING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 45 as section 46; and

(2) by inserting after section 44 the following:

‘‘SEC. 45. BROADBAND AND EMERGING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.’’

‘‘(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ’broadband and emerging information technology coordinator’ means the individual assigned the broadband and emerging information technology coordination responsibilities of the Administration under subsection (b)(1).

(b) ASSIGNMENT OF COORDINATOR.—The Administrator shall assign responsibility for coordinating the programs and activities of the Administration relating to broadband and emerging information technology to an individual who—

(A) shall report directly to the Administrator;

(B) shall work in coordination with—

(i) the chief information officer, the chief technology officer, and the head of the Office of Technology of the Administration; and

(ii) any Associate Administrator of the Administration determined appropriate by the Administrator;

(C) has experience developing and implementing telecommunications policy in the private sector or government; and

(D) has demonstrated significant experience in the area of broadband or emerging information technology.

(2) RESPONSIBILITIES OF COORDINATOR.—The broadband and emerging information technology coordinator shall—

(A) coordinate the Administration that assist small business concerns in adopting, making innovations in, and using broadband and other emerging information technologies;

(B) serve as the primary liaison of the Administration to other Federal agencies involved in broadband and emerging information technology, including the Department of Commerce, the Department of Agriculture, and the Federal Communications Commission; and

(C) identify best practices relating to broadband and emerging information technology that may benefit small business concerns.

(3) TRAVEL.—Not more than 20 percent of the hours of service by the broadband and emerging information technology coordinator during any fiscal year shall consist of travel outside the United States to perform official duties.

(c) BROADBAND AND EMERGING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRAINING.—

(1) TRAINING.—The Administrator shall provide to employees of the Administration training that—

(A) familiarizes employees of the Administration with broadband and other emerging information technologies; and

(B) includes instruction counseling small business concerns regarding adopting, making innovations in, and using broadband and other emerging information technologies; and

(ii) information on programs of the Federal Government that provide assistance to small business concerns relating to broadband and emerging information technologies.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection.

(d) REPORTS.—

(1) BIENNIAL REPORT ON ACTIVITIES.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the Administrator makes the first assignment of responsibilities under subsection (b), and every 2 years thereafter, the broadband and emerging information technology coordinator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report regarding the programs of the Administration relating to broadband and other emerging information technologies.

(2) REPORT ON FEDERAL PROGRAMS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2011, the broadband and emerging information technology coordinator, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, and the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report regarding the programs of the Federal Government that provide assistance to small business concerns relating to broadband and emerging information technologies, which shall include recommendations, if any, for improving coordination among the programs.’’.

(b) ELIMINATION OF VACANT POSITION REQUIRED.—

(1) ELIMINATION.—Before assigning the first broadband and emerging technologies coordinator under section 45 of the Small Business Act, as added by subsection (a) of this section, the Administrator shall—

(A) identify a position within the Administration that is—

(i) vacant on the date of enactment of this Act; and

(ii) required to be filled by an employee in the Senior Executive Service or at GS–15 of the General Schedule; and

(b) eliminate the position identified under subparagraph (A).

(2) RESTRICTION.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the Administrator may not eliminate the programs of the SBIR or the STTR program established by the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.), the Small Business Investment Act 1958 (15 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), or any other Federal statute.

(c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by section 203(b) shall have no force or effect.}

(2) PROSPECTIVE REPEAL OF ACCELERATING CURVES PILOT PROGRAM.—Effective 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

(A) by striking section 43, as added by section 203(a); and

(B) by redesigning sections 44, 45 (as added by subsection (a)) and 46 (as redesignated by subsection (a) as sections 43, 44, and 45, respectively.
SA 237. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 329. GREENHOUSE GAS-RELATED EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

(1) to ensure that the greenhouse gas emissions from certain sources will not require a permit under the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.); and

(2) to exempt greenhouse gas emissions from certain agricultural sources from permitting requirements under that Act.

(b) AMENDMENT.—Title III of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

SEC. 329. GREENHOUSE GAS-RELATED EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) DEFINITION OF GREENHOUSE GAS.—In this section, the term ‘greenhouse gas’ means any of the following:

(1) Carbon dioxide.

(2) Methane.

(3) Nitrous oxide.

(4) Sulfur hexafluoride.

(5) Hydrofluorocarbons.

(6) Perfluorocarbons.

(7) Nitrogen trifluoride.

(8) Any other anthropogenic gas, if the Administrator determines that the gas has the same or greater effect on global climate change as does 1 ton of carbon dioxide.

(b) NEW SOURCE REVIEW.—

(1) MODIFICATION OF DEFINITION OF AIR POLLUTANT.—For purposes of determining whether a stationary source is a major emitting facility under section 169(1) or has undertaken construction pursuant to section 169(a), the term ‘air pollutant’ shall not include any greenhouse gas unless the gas is subject to regulation under this Act for reasons independent of the effects of the gas on global climate change.

(2) THRESHOLDS FOR EXCLUSIONS FROM PERMIT PROVISIONS.—No requirement of part C of title I shall apply with respect to any greenhouse gas unless the gas is subject to regulation under this Act for reasons independent of the effects of the gas on global climate change or the gas is emitted by a stationary source—

(A) that is—

(i) a new major emitting facility that will emit, or have the potential to emit, greenhouse gases in a quantity of at least 75,000 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per year; or

(ii) an existing major emitting facility that undertakes construction which increases the quantities of greenhouse gas emissions, or which results in emission of greenhouse gases that are subject to regulation under this Act solely on the basis of the effect of the greenhouse gases subject to regulation under this Act.

(b) ELECTRONIC AVAILABILITY.—

(1) GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.—The Government Printing Office shall make the Congressional Record available to the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives in an electronic form in a timely manner to ensure the implementation of paragraph (1).

(2) WEBSITE.—The Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives shall make the Congressional Record available on websites of the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives and in a format which enables the Congressional Record to be downloaded and printed by users of the website.

(c) TITLE V OPERATING PERMITS.—Notwithstanding any provision of title III or title V, no stationary source shall be required to apply for, or operate pursuant to, a permit under title V, solely on the basis of the emissions of the stationary source of greenhouse gases that are subject to regulation under this Act solely on the basis of the effect of the greenhouse gases subject to regulation under this Act, unless those emissions from that source are subject to regulation under this Act.

SA 238. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 116, after line 24, insert the following:

(4) by adding to the end the following:

(iv) increasing the competitiveness and productivity of small business concerns by assisting entrepreneurs in accessing broadband and wireless technology that would benefit small business concerns.

(c) TITLE V OPERATING PERMITS.—Notwithstanding any provision of title III or title V, no stationary source shall be required to apply for, or operate pursuant to, a permit under title V, solely on the basis of the emissions of the stationary source of greenhouse gases that are subject to regulation under this Act solely on the basis of the effect of the greenhouse gases subject to regulation under this Act, unless those emissions from that source are subject to regulation under this Act.

SA 237. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 329. GREENHOUSE GAS-RELATED EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

(1) to ensure that the greenhouse gas emissions from certain sources will not require a permit under the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.); and

(2) to exempt greenhouse gas emissions from certain agricultural sources from permitting requirements under that Act.

(b) AMENDMENT.—Title III of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

SEC. 329. GREENHOUSE GAS-RELATED EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) DEFINITION OF GREENHOUSE GAS.—In this section, the term ‘greenhouse gas’ means any of the following:

(1) Carbon dioxide.

(2) Methane.

(3) Nitrous oxide.

(4) Sulfur hexafluoride.

(5) Hydrofluorocarbons.

(6) Perfluorocarbons.

(7) Nitrogen trifluoride.

(8) Any other anthropogenic gas, if the Administrator determines that the gas has the same or greater effect on global climate change as does 1 ton of carbon dioxide.

(b) NEW SOURCE REVIEW.—

(1) MODIFICATION OF DEFINITION OF AIR POLLUTANT.—For purposes of determining whether a stationary source is a major emitting facility under section 169(1) or has undertaken construction pursuant to section 169(a), the term ‘air pollutant’ shall not include any greenhouse gas unless the gas is subject to regulation under this Act for reasons independent of the effects of the gas on global climate change.

(2) THRESHOLDS FOR EXCLUSIONS FROM PERMIT PROVISIONS.—No requirement of part C of title I shall apply with respect to any greenhouse gas unless the gas is subject to regulation under this Act for reasons independent of the effects of the gas on global climate change or the gas is emitted by a stationary source—

(A) that is—

(i) a new major emitting facility that will emit, or have the potential to emit, greenhouse gases in a quantity of at least 75,000 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per year; or

(ii) an existing major emitting facility that undertakes construction which increases the quantities of greenhouse gas emissions, or which results in emission of greenhouse gases that are subject to regulation under this Act solely on the basis of the effect of the greenhouse gases subject to regulation under this Act.

(b) ELECTRONIC AVAILABILITY.—

(1) GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.—The Government Printing Office shall make the Congressional Record available to the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives in an electronic form in a timely manner to ensure the implementation of paragraph (1).

(2) WEBSITE.—The Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives shall make the Congressional Record available on websites of the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives and in a format which enables the Congressional Record to be downloaded and printed by users of the website.

(c) TITLE V OPERATING PERMITS.—Notwithstanding any provision of title III or title V, no stationary source shall be required to apply for, or operate pursuant to, a permit under title V, solely on the basis of the emissions of the stationary source of greenhouse gases that are subject to regulation under this Act solely on the basis of the effect of the greenhouse gases subject to regulation under this Act, unless those emissions from that source are subject to regulation under this Act.

SA 237. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 116, after line 24, insert the following:
SEC. 504. DISPOSITION OF FEDERAL HIGH SPEED RAIL FUNDING NOT USED BY STATE TO WHICH IT WAS ALLOCATED.

Amounts allocated to any State under the Federal Railroad Administration’s High-Speed Intercity Passenger Rail Program that are not used by that State—

(1) shall be deposited into the General Fund of the Treasury to reduce that national deficit; and

(2) may not be reallocated to another qualifying State for any high speed rail project.

SA 239. Mr. McCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 116, after line 24, add the following:

SEC. 504. ELIMINATION OF DUPLICATIVE SECURITY ASSESSMENTS.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Transportation Security Administration is not authorized to conduct security assessments on hazardous material trucking companies that are similar to the security contact reviews conducted by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

SA 240. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 603. IMPLEMENTATION.

(a) TIERED APPROVAL PROCESS.—The National Credit Union Administration Board determines are necessary to maintain the safety and soundness of the credit union.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) the term ‘‘Board’’ means the National Credit Union Administration Board;

(2) the term ‘‘insured credit union’’ has the same meaning as in section 107A(c)(1) of the Federal Credit Union Act (12 U.S.C. 1757a(c)(1));

(3) the term ‘‘well capitalized’’ has the same meaning as in section 107A(c)(2) of the Federal Credit Union Act (12 U.S.C. 1757a(c)(2));

(4) the term ‘‘net worth’’ has the same meaning as in section 107A(c)(1) of the Federal Credit Union Act (12 U.S.C. 1757a(c)(1));

(5) the term ‘‘capital’’ means the total assets of the credit union;

(6) the term ‘‘member business loans’’ means a loan or extension of credit, which is not a member consumer loan,

(7) the term ‘‘member business loan portfolio’’ means the total amount of member business loans that an insured credit union has outstanding;

(8) the term ‘‘well capitalized’’ has the same meaning as in section 107A(c)(1) of the Federal Credit Union Act (12 U.S.C. 1757a(c)(2));

(9) the term ‘‘primary capital’’ means the capital that is required under the capital adequacy standards to be maintained by the insured credit union;

(10) the term ‘‘total assets’’ means the total assets of the insured credit union; and

(11) the term ‘‘net worth’’ has the same meaning as in section 107A(c)(1) of the Federal Credit Union Act (12 U.S.C. 1757a(c)(1));
shall develop a tiered approval process, under which an insured credit union gradually increases the amount of member business lending in a manner that is consistent with the safe and sound operations, subject to the limits established under section 107A(a)(2) of the Federal Credit Union Act (as amended by this title). The rate of increase under subsection (a) of this paragraph may not exceed 30 percent per year.

(b) RULEMAKING REQUIRED.—The Board shall establish rules, not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, to establish the tiered approval process required under subsection (a). The tiered approval process shall establish standards designed to ensure that the new business lending capacity authorized under the amendment made by section 2 is being used only by insured credit unions that are well-managed and well capitalized, as required by the amendments made under section 2, and as defined by the rules issued by the Board under this subsection.

(c) CONSIDERATIONS.—In issuing rules required under this section, the Board shall consider—

(1) the experience level of the institutions, including a demonstrated history of sound member business lending;

(2) the criteria under section 107A(a)(2) of the Federal Credit Union Act, as amended by this title; and

(3) such other factors as the Board determines necessary or appropriate.

SEC. 604. REPORTS TO CONGRESS ON MEMBER BUSINESS LENDING.

(a) REPORT OF THE BOARD.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and each year thereafter, the Board shall submit a report to Congress on member business lending by insured credit unions.

(2) REPORT.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) the types and asset size of insured credit unions making member business loans and the member business loan limitations applicable to the insured credit unions;

(B) the overall amount and average size of member business loans by each insured credit union;

(C) the ratio of member business loans by insured credit unions to total assets and net worth;

(D) the performance of the member business loans, including delinquencies and net charge-offs;

(E) the effect of this title and the amendments made by this title on the number of insured credit unions engaged in member business lending, any change in the amount of member business lending, and the extent to which any increase is attributed to the change in the limitation in section 107A(a) of the Federal Credit Union Act, as amended by this title;

(F) the number, types, and asset size of insured credit unions that were denied or approved by the Board for increased member business loans under section 107A(a)(2) of the Federal Credit Union Act, as amended by this title, including denials and approvals under the tiered approval process;

(G) the types and sizes of businesses that receive member business loans, the duration of the credit union membership of the businesses at the time of the loan, the types of collateral used to secure member business loans, the average size of the loans, and the percentage of members receiving member business loans; and

(H) the effect of any increases in member business loans on the risk to the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund and the assessments on insured credit unions.

(b) GAO STUDY AND REPORT.—

(1) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on the status of member business lending by insured credit unions, including—

(A) trends in such lending;

(B) types and amounts of member business loans;

(C) the effectiveness of this section in enhancing safety and soundness;

(D) recommendations for legislative action, if any, with respect to such lending; and

(E) any other information that the Comptroller General considers relevant with respect to such lending.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit a report to Congress on the study required under paragraph (1).

SA 243. Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 73, at the end, add the following:

SEC. 209. INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(1) CLEAN TECHNOLOGY.—The term ‘clean technology’ means—

(A) technology that improves energy efficiency, including—

(i) technologies to reduce energy consumption;

(ii) energy-efficient building technologies and applications and

(iii) efficient electricity transmission, distribution, and electrical grid-based storage;

(B) technology relating to energy storage;

(C) fuel cells and batteries; and

(D) component technologies for electric vehicles.

(2) RENEWABLE ENERGY.—The term ‘renewable energy’ means energy generated from any of the following:

(A) Solar, wind, geothermal, or ocean based sources.

(B) Biomass, biofuels, or feedstock.

(C) Landfill gas.

(D) Municipal solid waste.

(E) Incremental hydropower.

(F) Hydrogen that has been certified by the Low Impact Hydropower Institute.

(3) SMALL- OR MEDIUM-SIZE HIGH GROWTH TECHNOLOGY COMPANY.—The term ‘small- or medium-sized high growth technology company’ means a small business concern that primarily engages in commerce in 1 or more of the following industries:

(A) Life sciences.

(B) Medical devices.

(C) Computer hardware.

(D) Computer software.

(E) Clean technologies.

(F) Renewable energy generation and manufacturing.

(G) Such other industries as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(b) C ONSIDERATIONS.—In issuing rules required under this section if each of the following requirements is met:

(1) PURPOSE.—The loan is for—

(A) fixed assets relating to reequipping, expanding, or establishing a facility; or

(B) providing the loan recipient with working capital.

(2) INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM.

(b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The loan is for—

(A) fixed assets relating to reequipping, expanding, or establishing a facility; or

(B) providing the loan recipient with working capital.

(c) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may, under this subsection, guarantee the full or partial repayment of a loan that meets the requirements of this section.

(d) LIQUIDATION.—For a loan guaranteed under the program established pursuant to subsection (b)(1), the Secretary may require such percentage of principal and interest on the loan as the Secretary considers appropriate, except that such percentage shall not be less than 50 percent and not more than 90 percent.

(e) FEES.—The Secretary may establish such fees as the Secretary considers necessary to carry out the provisions of the program established pursuant to subsection (b)(1).
(i) INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FUND.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a revolving fund to be known as the “Innovative Technology Development Fund” (in this subsection referred to as the “Fund”).
(2) ELEMENTS.—There shall be deposited in the Fund:
(A) Amounts paid into the Fund under any provision of law or regulation established by the Secretary imposing fees under subsection (b);
(B) All other amounts received by the Secretary incident to operations relating to the loan guarantee program established under subsection (b)(1).
(3) USE OF FUNDS.—The Fund shall be available to the Secretary, without fiscal year limitation, to carry out the provisions of this section.

(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section $200,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.

SEC. 210. INTERNET WEBSITE PROMOTING COMMERCIALIZATION OF TECHNOLOGY IDEAS INVENTED BY FEDERALLY FUNDED RESEARCHERS.
(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce shall, acting through the Director of the National Institute for Standards and Technology, establish and maintain an Internet website that connects Federally funded researchers who have ideas for technologies that they believe could be commercialized with persons who express interest in working with Federally funded researchers on the commercialization of their technologies.
(b) PARTICIPATION OPTIONAL.—Participation of a Federally-funded researcher in the Internet website required by subsection (a) shall be optional.
(c) IN GENERAL.—
(1) Not later than 2 years after the establishment of the Internet website required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on such Internet website.
(2) The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:
(A) The status of the Internet website required by subsection (a);
(B) An assessment of such Internet website;
(C) Such recommendations as the Secretary may have for improvements to the Internet website and any additional funding or legislative action as the Secretary considers necessary to implement such improvements.

SEC. 211. LIMITATION ON GOVERNMENT PRINTING COSTS.
Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall coordinate with the heads of Federal departments and independent agencies to:
(1) determine which Government publications could be available on Government Internet websites and no longer printed and to develop a plan to reduce overall Government printing costs over the 10-year period beginning with fiscal year 2011, except that the Director shall ensure that essential print products prepared for social security recipients, medicare beneficiaries, and other populations in areas with limited Internet access or use continue to remain available;
(2) establish government-wide Federal guidelines on employee printing; and
(3) issue the Office of Management and Budget’s public Internet website the results of a cost-benefit analysis on implementing a digital signature system and on establishing employee identification systems, such as the use of individual employee cards or codes, to monitor the amount of printing done by Federal employees, except that the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall ensure that Federal employee printing costs unrelated to national defense, homeland security, border security, national disaster response, and the like do not exceed $860,000,000 annually.

NOTICE OF HEARING
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Thursday, April 14, 2011, at 10 a.m., in room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this hearing is to review S. 343 a bill to amend Title I of PL 99–658 regarding the Compact of Free Association between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Palau, to approve the results of the 15-year review of the Compact, including the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Palau following the Compact of Free Association Section 432 Review, to appropriate funds for the purposes of the amended PL 99–658 for fiscal years ending on or before September 30, 2024, and to carry out the agreements resulting from that review.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing may do so by sending a copy to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510–6150, or by e-mail to Abigail Campbell at energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Al Stayman or Abigail Campbell.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 16, 2011, at 2:30 p.m. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND TRANSPORTATION
Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 16, 2011, at 10 a.m. in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building, to hold a hearing entitled, “The State of Online Consumer Privacy.”

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 16, 2011, at 10 a.m. in SD–406.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 16, 2011, at 10 a.m., in 215 Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Health Reform: Lessons Learned During the First Year.”

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 16, 2011, at 9 a.m., to hold a hearing entitled, “Intelligence Update on Libya.”

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 16, 2011, at 10:15 a.m. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS
Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 16, 2011, at 9:30 a.m., to hold a hearing entitled, “Afghanistan: Progress and Expectations.”

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS
Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 16, 2011, at 2:30 p.m., to hold a hearing entitled, “Afghanistan: Progress and Expectations.”

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 16, 2011.

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 16, 2011, at 10:30 a.m. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.