

sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV, and the prevention of dating violence and sexual assault, and for other purposes.

S. 2800

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2800, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide an exclusion from income for student loan forgiveness for students who have died or become disabled.

S. 2856

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2856, a bill to streamline certain feasibility studies and avoid duplication of effort.

S. 2904

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2904, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five month waiting period for disability insurance benefits under such title for individuals with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

S. 2912

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2912, a bill to authorize the use of unapproved medical products by patients diagnosed with a terminal illness in accordance with State law, and for other purposes.

S. 2997

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2997, a bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to commence proceedings related to the resiliency of critical telecommunications networks during times of emergency, and for other purposes.

S. 3018

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3018, a bill to provide for the establishment of a pilot program to identify security vulnerabilities of certain entities in the energy sector.

S. 3053

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3053, a bill to prevent a person who has been convicted of a misdemeanor hate crime, or received an enhanced sentence for a misdemeanor because of hate or bias in its commission, from obtaining a firearm.

S. CON. RES. 36

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 36, a concurrent resolution expressing support of the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust victims live with dignity, comfort, and security

in their remaining years, and urging the Federal Republic of Germany to reaffirm its commitment to that goal through a financial commitment to comprehensively address the unique health and welfare needs of vulnerable Holocaust victims, including home care and other medically prescribed needs.

S. RES. 349

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 349, a resolution congratulating the Farm Credit System on the celebration of its 100th anniversary.

S. RES. 482

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 482, a resolution urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization and to increase pressure on the organization and its members to the fullest extent possible.

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 482, *supra*.

S. RES. 483

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 483, a resolution designating June 20, 2016, as "American Eagle Day" and celebrating the recovery and restoration of the bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States.

AMENDMENT NO. 4629

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4629 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4649

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4649 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. LEE):

S. 3056. A bill to provide for certain causes of action relating to delays of

generic drugs and biosimilar biological products; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, in recent months, the high cost of pharmaceutical products has been front and center in national news, sometimes with astonishing examples like the unconscionable price-hike by Turing Pharmaceuticals of their drug for patients with HIV from \$13.50 to \$750 per pill overnight.

Pharmaceutical companies should be compensated for their important work developing life-saving treatments, but when companies engage in predatory practices at the expense of consumers, we must act. That is why today, I am introducing the Creating and Restoring Equal Access to Equivalent Samples, CREATES, Act, bipartisan legislation to end inappropriate delay tactics that are used by some brand-name drug manufacturers to block competition from more affordable generic drugs.

The first delay tactic addressed by the CREATES Act involves the withholding of drug samples that generic manufacturers need to gain regulatory approval. Federal law requires generic competitors to prove that their low-cost alternative is equally safe and effective as the brand-name drug with which they wish to compete. Unfortunately, some brand-name companies are preventing generic manufacturers from obtaining the samples they need to make the necessary comparison. This simple delay tactic uses regulatory safeguards as a weapon to block competition. The FDA has reported receiving more than 100 inquiries from generic product developers who were unable to access samples of a brand-name drug to compare their generic product.

The second delay tactic addressed by the CREATES Act involves the development of shared safety protocols. For some high-risk drugs, federal law requires a generic drug manufacturer to join the brand-name drug manufacturer in a single, shared safety protocol for distribution of the drug. Despite this requirement, some brand-name companies are refusing to negotiate a shared safety protocol with potential generic competitors, again undermining those competitors' ability to gain FDA approval for their generic version of the drug.

These exclusionary practices thwart competition and deny consumers the benefit of lower drug prices. They also undermine the careful balance created in the Hatch-Waxman Act and the more recent Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act, which are designed to reward and incentivize innovation while ensuring that consumers ultimately benefit from the entry, after an appropriate time, of generic or biosimilar versions of a drug. Innovative companies can and should gain the benefit of their inventions. But when companies artificially extend the period of those benefits by using dilatory tactics to delay generic entry, the

thoughtful balance of the Hatch-Waxman Act and BPCIA are plainly undermined.

I share the concerns of Vermonters and Americans across the country that many pharmaceutical products are simply too expensive for consumers. Nearly ¾ of the public view prescription drug costs as unreasonable, and one in four patients say they have not filled a prescription because of cost. Parents should not be forced to choose between putting food on the table and getting their children and themselves the medicine they need. When drug prices are artificially inflated, patients suffer, illnesses become protracted, and families, government programs, and other payers in the healthcare system ultimately bear the cost. That is why this legislation is supported by consumer groups, physicians, insurance companies, pharmacists and hospitals who all see firsthand the impact of unreasonably high costs of some prescription drugs.

Earlier this month, Vermont set an example for the Nation when it passed into law drug transparency legislation that will require pharmaceutical companies to justify large increases in their drug prices. Here in Washington, the Senate Aging Committee and other Committees have been doing important work to analyze the root causes of high drug pricing and find practical solutions. Solving this issue will require nuanced, thoughtful work on all sides to ensure that consumers are protected and that pharmaceutical companies that act in good faith can continue to innovate for patients.

With the CREATES Act, the bipartisan leaders of the Senate Judiciary Committee and its Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights are using our roles to address anticompetitive behavior that blocks competition and delays the creation of affordable generic drugs. I thank Senators GRASSLEY, KLOBUCHAR and LEE for joining me in this effort, and for agreeing to hold a hearing on this bill as soon as next week.

Drug affordability is a bipartisan issue that impacts each and every one of us. I hope other Senators will join us in supporting this bipartisan legislation.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 493—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF GEORGE V. VOINOVICH, FORMER UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR THE STATE OF OHIO

Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. REID, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COATS, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms.

COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. HELLER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Mr. KIRK, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SASSE, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 493

Whereas George Voinovich was born in Cleveland, Ohio, attended Ohio University and Ohio State University College of Law;

Whereas George Voinovich began his career faithfully serving the State and the people of Ohio as an assistant attorney general of Ohio in 1963; served as a member of the Ohio House of Representatives from 1967 to 1971; served as Cuyahoga County auditor from 1971 to 1976; served as a member of the Cuyahoga County Board of Commissioners from 1977 to 1978; was elected lieutenant governor in 1978; and served as mayor of Cleveland from 1979 to 1989;

Whereas, George Voinovich was elected governor of Ohio in 1991 and was elected to a second term by a landslide, securing 72% of the vote, the highest percentage of the vote ever won by gubernatorial candidate in Ohio history;

Whereas, during his time as governor, he was known for his advocacy and practice of fiscal responsibility, embodied in his call to “working harder and smarter, doing more with less”;

Whereas, under his tenure as Governor, Ohio’s unemployment rate fell to a 25-year low and he restored the state’s budget to financial health;

Whereas, in 1998, George Voinovich was elected to the United States Senate and served until 2011, during which time he was Chairman of the Select Committee on Ethics and a member of the Appropriations Committee;

Whereas, in 2004, George Voinovich was re-elected to the United States Senate with more votes than any other Senate candidate in Ohio history;

Whereas, for every public office he held, George Voinovich improved government operations, accountability and financial management; he worked to improve the environment, with particular attention to Lake Erie, and making America more secure;

Whereas, throughout his life, George Voinovich was guided by his deep faith, personal integrity, fiscal responsibility, respect and service to his fellow citizens, and above all, his abiding love of his family, state and nation;

Whereas the people of Ohio have demonstrated their appreciation and affection

for Senator Voinovich by the naming of numerous landmarks after him, including Voinovich Centennial Park, the Voinovich Innerbelt Bridge, and The George V. Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs at Ohio University;

Whereas, in his two terms in the United States Senate and in his other public service, George Voinovich reached across the aisle and sought common ground to solve problems: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of George Voinovich, former member of the United States Senate.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

*Resolved*, That when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late George V. Voinovich.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 494—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2016 AS “NATIONAL CHILD AWARENESS MONTH” TO PROMOTE AWARENESS OF CHARITIES BENEFITING CHILDREN AND YOUTH-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS MADE BY THOSE CHARITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH AS CRITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUTURE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 494

Whereas millions of children and youth in the United States represent the hopes and future of the United States;

Whereas numerous individuals, charities benefiting children, and youth-serving organizations that work with children and youth collaborate to provide invaluable services to enrich and better the lives of children and youth throughout the United States;

Whereas raising awareness of, and increasing support for, organizations that provide access to health care, social services, education, the arts, sports, and other services will result in the development of character and the future success of the children and youth of the United States;

Whereas the month of September, as the school year begins, is a time—

(1) when parents, families, teachers, school administrators, and communities increase focus on children and youth throughout the United States; and

(2) for the people of the United States to highlight and be mindful of the needs of children and youth;

Whereas private corporations and businesses have joined with hundreds of national and local charitable organizations throughout the United States in support of a month-long focus on children and youth; and

Whereas designating September 2016 as “National Child Awareness Month” would recognize that a long-term commitment to children and youth is in the public interest and will encourage widespread support for charities and organizations that seek to provide a better future for the children and youth of the United States: Now, therefore, be it