

It is time that we reduced the tax bias against families who do not have access to coverage through their place of work or existing government programs, and to encourage the creation of an effective market for family-selected and family-owned plans, where Americans have more choice and control over their health care dollars. The Fair Care for the Uninsured Act would create tax fairness where currently none exists by requiring that all Americans receive the same tax encouragement to purchase health insurance, regardless of employment.

It is my hope that my colleagues will join me in endorsing this approach to provide people who purchase health insurance on their own similar tax treatment as those who have access to insurance through their employer.●

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. REED, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ROBB, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DODD, and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. 2338. A bill to enhance the enforcement of gun violence laws; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

THE EFFECTIVE NATIONAL FIREARMS OBJECTIVES FOR RESPONSIBLE, COMMONSENSE ENFORCEMENT (ENFORCE) ACT

● Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce on behalf of myself and Senators KENNEDY, DURBIN, LAUTENBERG, REED, TORRICELLI, LEVIN, ROBB, MOYNIHAN, BOXER, DODD, and Mr. DASCHLE, the Effective National Firearms Objectives For Responsible, Commonsense Enforcement Act. This bill, I believe, bridges the gap between those who reflexively support the gun lobby and those who strongly support gun control.

The ENFORCE Act is the culmination of years of research into gun tracing and gun trafficking. It is the next phase in stopping gun violence. It is a bill and an approach to gun crime that works smarter and works harder.

This bill works smarter by ridding us of many of the laws that have shielded illegal gun traffickers and dirty gun dealers from prosecution. It uses the latest in gun tracing data and ballistics technology to make it possible for law enforcement to zero in on the bad apples, throw the book at them, and leave the rest alone. It works harder by finally giving ATF the street agents they need to crack down on high crime gun dealers and to prosecute more gun crimes.

Let me outline a few provisions in this legislation. First, this bill will fund 500 new ATF agents and inspectors to crack down on dirty gun dealers. These new agents will target high-crime gun dealers who supply firearms to criminals and juveniles and crack down on violent gun criminals and illegal gun traffickers at gun shows, gun stores, and on the streets.

ENFORCE will also give ATF the authority to investigate high crime-gun

stores. Under current law, the ATF is only allowed to conduct one unannounced inspection of a licensed dealer a year. The bill would allow the ATF to conduct four compliance inspections annually of licensed firearms dealers, importers, and manufacturers.

In addition, this legislation will authorize funds to hire an additional 1,000 local, state and federal prosecutors to expand the Project Exile program in high gun-crime areas. In cases where federal law enforcement authorities defer to state prosecutors, this funding would ensure that state prosecutors have sufficient resources. Furthermore, ENFORCE authorizes funding for federal prosecutors and gun enforcement teams to coordinate efforts with local law enforcement and to determine where federal prosecution is warranted.

ENFORCE will also create a comprehensive ballistics DNA testing network. The Act would triple current funding for ballistics testing programs to support the deployment of 150 ballistics imaging units, helping to link bullets and shell casings to the crime-guns they were fired from.

ENFORCE will expand to 50 cities and counties the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative (YCGII), which would dramatically increase tracing of crime guns to find sources. Participating cities and counties' law enforcement agencies would submit and share identifying information about crime guns and conduct law enforcement investigations regarding illegal youth users of firearms and illegal traffickers of firearms to youth. The Secretary of the Treasury would provide an annual report on the types and sources of recovered crime guns and the number of investigations associated with YCGII.

The bill would also fund \$10 million for smart gun technology research and development. New state-of-the-art innovations could limit a gun's use to its owner or other authorized users—and could therefore prevent accidental shooting deaths of children, detect gun theft, and stop criminals from seizing and using the guns of police officers against them.

ENFORCE is a comprehensive package of measures that will strengthen the enforcement of existing gun laws and target high crime-gun dealers to reduce gun violence and to keep firearms out of the hands of children and criminals. The gun lobby has been calling for more enforcement. This is as tough and effective an enforcement bill as ever drafted. Gun rights and gun control supporters ought to step up to the plate and pass it.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 309

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 309, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that a member of the uniformed services shall be treated as using a principal resi-

dence while away from home on qualified official extended duty in determining the exclusion of gain from the sale of such residence.

S. 622

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 622, a bill to enhance Federal enforcement of hate crimes, and for other purposes.

S. 784

At the request of Mr. L. CHAFEE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 784, a bill to establish a demonstration project to study and provide coverage of routine patient care costs for medicare beneficiaries with cancer who are enrolled in an approved clinical trial program.

S. 821

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 821, a bill to provide for the collection of data on traffic stops.

S. 1017

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1017, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the State ceiling on the low-income housing credit.

S. 1020

At the request of Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1020, a bill to amend chapter 1 of title 9, United States Code, to provide for greater fairness in the arbitration process relating to motor vehicle franchise contracts.

S. 1215

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1215, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish headstones or markers for marked graves of, or to otherwise commemorate, certain individuals.

S. 1399

At the request of Mr. ROBB, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1399, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide that pay adjustments for nurses and certain other health-care professionals employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs shall be made in the manner applicable to Federal employees generally and to revise the authority for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make further locality pay adjustments for those professionals.

S. 1408

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. L. CHAFEE), was added as a cosponsor of S. 1408, a bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to promote the cleanup of abandoned, idled, or underused commercial or industrial facilities, the expansion or redevelopment of which are complicated by real

or perceived environmental contamination, and for other purposes.

S. 1498

At the request of Mr. BURNS, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1498, a bill to amend chapter 55 of title 5, United States Code, to authorize equal overtime pay provisions for all Federal employees engaged in wildland fire suppression operations.

S. 1608

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1608, a bill to provide annual payments to the States and counties from National Forest System lands managed by the Forest Service, and the revested Oregon and California Railroad and re-conveyed Coos Bay Wagon Road grant lands managed predominately by the Bureau of Land Management, for use by the counties in which the lands are situated for the benefit of the public schools, roads, emergency and other public purposes; to encourage and provide new mechanism for cooperation between counties and the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to make necessary investments in federal lands, and reaffirm the positive connection between Federal Lands counties and Federal Lands; and for other purposes.

S. 1762

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAU), and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1762, a bill to amend the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide cost share assistance for the rehabilitation of structural measures constructed as part of water resources projects previously funded by the Secretary under such Act or related laws.

S. 1806

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1806, a bill to authorize the payment of a gratuity to certain members of the Armed Forces who served at Bataan and Corregidor during World War II, or the surviving spouses of such members, and for other purposes.

S. 1883

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1883, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to eliminate an inequity on the applicability of early retirement eligibility requirements to military reserve technicians.

S. 1932

At the request of Mr. L. CHAFEE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1932, a bill to amend the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Act of 1998 to revise and extend certain provisions.

S. 1969

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH of Oregon) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1969, a bill to provide for improved management of, and increases accountability for, outfitted activities by which the public gains access to and occupancy and use of Federal land, and for other purposes.

S. 1975

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1975, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the tax on generation-skipping transfers to eliminate certain traps for the unwary and otherwise improve the fairness of such tax.

S. 2005

At the request of Mr. BURNS, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI), and the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) were added as cosponsors of S. 2005, a bill to repeal the modification of the installment method.

S. 2018

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2018, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to revise the update factor used in making payments to PPS hospitals under the medicare program.

S. 2058

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2058, a bill to extend filing deadlines for applications for adjustment of status of certain Cuban, Nicaraguan, and Haitian nationals.

S. 2087

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2087, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve access to benefits under the TRICARE program; to extend and improve certain demonstration programs under the Defense Health Program; and for other purposes.

S. 2097

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2097, a bill to authorize loan guarantees in order to facilitate access to local television broadcast signals in unserved and underserved areas, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2097, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2097, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. ROBB, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2097, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. HATCH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2097, *supra*.

S. 2123

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2123, a bill to provide Outer Continental Shelf Impact assistance to State and local governments, to amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978, and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act) to establish a fund to meet the outdoor conservation and recreation needs of the American people, and for other purposes.

S. 2158

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2158, a bill to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to eliminate the duty on certain steam or other vapor generating boilers used in nuclear facilities.

S. 2234

At the request of Mr. ROBB, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2234, a bill to designate certain facilities of the United States Postal Service.

S. 2235

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2235, a bill to amend the Public Health Act to revise the performance standards and certification process for organ procurement organizations.

S. 2246

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2246, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that certain small businesses are permitted to use the cash method of accounting even if they use merchandise or inventory.

S. 2255

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2255, a bill to amend the Internet Tax Freedom Act to extend the moratorium through calendar year 2006.

S. 2277

At the request of Mr. ROTH, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB) were added as cosponsors of S. 2277, a bill to terminate the application of title IV of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to the People's Republic of China.

S. 2285

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2285, a bill instituting a Federal fuels tax holiday.

S. 2291

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2291, a bill to provide assistance for efforts to improve conservation of, recreation in, erosion control of, and maintenance of fish and wildlife habitat of the Missouri River in the State of South Dakota, and for other purposes.

S. 2293

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2293, a bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act and the Federal Home Loan Bank Act to provide for the payment of Financing Corporation interest obligations from balances in the deposit insurance funds in excess of an established ratio and, after such obligations are satisfied, to provide for rebates to insured depository institutions of such excess reserves.

S. 2299

At the request of Mr. L. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2299, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to continue State Medicaid disproportionate share hospital (DSH) allotments for fiscal year 2001 at the levels for fiscal year 2000.

S. 2300

At the request of Mr. THOMAS, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2300, a bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to increase the maximum acreage of Federal leases for coal that may be held by an entity in any 1 State.

S. RES. 90

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 90, a resolution designating the 30th day of April 2000 as "Dia de los Ninos: Celebrating Young Americans," and for other purposes.

S. RES. 271

At the request of Mr. L. CHAFEE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 271, a resolution regarding the human rights situation in the People's Republic of China.

SENATE RESOLUTION 279—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS SHOULD HOLD HEARINGS AND THE SENATE SHOULD ACT ON THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. DODD, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr.

LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ROBB, Mr. REED, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 279

Whereas the United States has shown leadership in promoting human rights, including the rights of women and girls, and was instrumental in the development of international human rights treaties and norms, including the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW);

Whereas the Senate has already agreed to the ratification of several important human rights treaties, including the Genocide Convention, the Convention Against Torture, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;

Whereas CEDAW establishes a worldwide commitment to combat discrimination against women and girls;

Whereas 165 countries of the world have ratified or acceded to CEDAW and the United States is among a small minority of countries, including Afghanistan, North Korea, Iran, and Sudan, which have not;

Whereas CEDAW is helping combat violence and discrimination against women and girls around the world;

Whereas CEDAW has had a significant and positive impact on legal developments in countries as diverse as Uganda, Colombia, Brazil, and South Africa, including, on citizenship rights in Botswana and Japan, inheritance rights in Tanzania, property rights and political participation in Costa Rica;

Whereas the Administration has proposed a small number of reservations, understandings, and declarations to ensure that U.S. ratification fully complies with all constitutional requirements, including states' and individuals' rights;

Whereas the legislatures of California, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, South Dakota, and Vermont have endorsed U.S. ratification of CEDAW;

Whereas more than one hundred U.S.-based, civic, legal, religious, education, and environmental organizations, including many major national membership organizations, support U.S. ratification of CEDAW;

Whereas ratification of CEDAW would allow the United States to nominate a representative to the CEDAW oversight committee; and

Whereas 2000 is the 21st anniversary of the adoption of CEDAW by the United Nations General Assembly: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Senate Foreign Relations Committee should hold hearings on the convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW); and

(2) the Senate should act on CEDAW by July 19, 2000, the 20th anniversary of the signing of the convention by the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 280—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE WITH RESPECT TO UNITED STATES RELATIONS WITH THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION IN VIEW OF THE SITUATION IN CHECHNYA

Mr. WELLSTONE submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 280

Whereas the Senate of the United States unanimously passed Senate Resolution 262 on February 24, 2000, condemning the indiscriminate use of force by the Government of the Russian Federation against the people of Chechnya, encouraging peace negotiations between the Government of the Russian Federation and the leadership of the Chechen Government, and urging the Government of the Russian Federation to immediately grant international organizations full and unimpeded access into Chechnya in order to provide humanitarian assistance and investigate alleged atrocities and war crimes;

Whereas the Committee of Foreign Relations of the Senate received credible evidence and testimony reporting grave human rights violations on both sides of the war in Chechnya;

Whereas the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate received credible evidence and testimony that Russian forces in Chechnya caused the deaths of countless thousands of innocent civilians and the displacement of well over 250,000 innocents; forcibly relocated refugee populations; and committed widespread atrocities including summary executions, arbitrary detentions, torture, and rape;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation continues its military campaign in Chechnya through the use of indiscriminate force, causing further displacement of people from their homes, the deaths of unarmed civilians and widespread suffering;

Whereas this war contributes to ethnic hatred and religious intolerance within the Russian Federation, and could divert much-needed international development assistance, undercut the ability of the international community to trust the Russian Federation as a signatory to international agreements, generate political instability within the Russian Federation, and be a continuing threat to the peace in the region; and

Whereas the Senate again expresses its deep concern over the war and humanitarian tragedy in Chechnya, and its desire for a peaceful and durable settlement to the conflict: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the lack of vigorous and sustained action of most Western governments, including that of the United States, to respond to the conflict in Chechnya could be too easily interpreted by the Government of the Russian Federation as indifference to it and thus allow that government to intensify and expand its military campaign there, further contributing to the suffering of the Chechen people;

(2) the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, is responsible for the conduct of Russian troops in and around Chechnya and has an obligation to ensure compliance with international humanitarian law and human rights norms, including the obligation to prevent present and future atrocities there, and to investigate fully atrocities already committed, and to initiate, where appropriate, prosecutions against those accused;