

State of New York, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 1228. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to authorize pilot projects under which private companies in the United States may use Federal inmate labor to produce items that would otherwise be produced by foreign labor, to revise the authorities and operations of Federal Prison Industries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WELLSTONE (for himself and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 1229. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to permit individuals to import prescription drugs in limited circumstances; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mrs. CLINTON):

S. 1230. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to focus American efforts on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria in developing countries; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. BURNS):

S. 1231. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to establish a system for market participants, regulators, and the public to have access to certain information about the operation of electricity power markets and transmission systems; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 1232. A bill to provide for the effective punishment of online child molesters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KOHL (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1233. A bill to provide penalties for certain unauthorized writing with respect to consumer products; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 213

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 213, a bill to amend the National Trails System Act to update the feasibility and suitability studies of 4 national historic trails and provide for possible additions to such trails.

S. 281

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 281, a bill to authorize the design and construction of a temporary education center at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

S. 345

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 345, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to strike the limitation that permits interstate movement of live birds, for the purpose of fighting, to States in which animal fighting is lawful.

S. 409

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from California

(Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 409, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the standards for compensation for Persian Gulf veterans suffering from certain undiagnosed illnesses, and for other purposes.

S. 498

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 498, a bill entitled "National Discovery Trails Act of 2001".

S. 543

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 543, a bill to provide for equal coverage of mental health benefits with respect to health insurance coverage unless comparable limitations are imposed on medical and surgical benefits.

S. 676

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 676, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend permanently the subpart F exemption for active financing income.

S. 686

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 686, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit against tax for energy efficient appliances.

S. 805

At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 805, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research with respect to various forms of muscular dystrophy, including Duchenne, Becker, limb girdle, congenital, facioscapulohumeral, myotonic, oculopharyngeal, distal, and emery-dreifuss muscular dystrophies.

S. 836

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 836, a bill to amend part C of title XI of the Social Security Act to provide for coordination of implementation of administrative simplification standards for health care information.

S. 838

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 838, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to improve the safety and efficacy of pharmaceuticals for children.

S. 865

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 865, a bill to provide small businesses certain protections from litigation excesses and to limit the

product liability of nonmanufacturer product sellers.

S. 917

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 917, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income amounts received on account of claims based on certain unlawful discrimination and to allow income averaging for backpay and frontpay awards received on account of such claims, and for other purposes.

S. 1025

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1025, a bill to provide for savings for working families.

S. 1037

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1037, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize disability retirement to be granted posthumously for members of the Armed Forces who die in the line of duty while on active duty, and for other purposes.

S. 1044

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1044, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide assistance for nutrient removal technologies to States in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

S. 1087

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1087, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a shorter recovery period of the depreciation of certain leasehold improvements.

S. 1140

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1140, 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. 1152

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1152, a bill to ensure that the business of the Federal Government is conducted in the public interest and in a manner that provides for public accountability, efficient delivery of services, reasonable cost savings, and prevention of unwarranted Government expenses, and for other purposes.

S. 1207

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1207, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a national cemetery for veterans in the

Albuquerque, New Mexico, metropolitan area.

S. 1209

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1209, a bill to amend the Trade Act of 1974 to consolidate and improve the trade adjustment assistance programs, to provide community-based economic development assistance for trade-affected communities, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 121

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 121, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the policy of the United States at the 53rd Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. ALLARD:

S. 1224. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the availability of Medicare cost contracts for 10 years; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce the Medicare Cost Contract Extension Act of 2001.

For decades, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (formerly the Health Care Financing Administration), has successfully offered health insurance providers two contracts to choose from: a Medicare risk contract, (Medicare+Choice), and Medicare cost contract. In an effort to expand and refine the Medicare+Choice program, the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 terminated the Medicare cost contract program effective December 31, 2002. To prevent this termination, in 1999 Congress passed the Balanced Budget and Refinement Act, which extended cost contracts for two years through 2004.

I am pleased that Congress passed into law this two-year extension of Medicare cost contracting. This extension will help Medicare beneficiaries in rural communities in the United States keep the quality health care they currently receive under their cost contract plans.

Congress should work to extend further Medicare cost contracts. The Medicare Cost Contract Extension Act of 2001 would accomplish this by extending by ten years the cost contract sunset date of December 31, 2004 to December 31, 2014.

Currently 298,683 Americans, and 18,050 Coloradans receive health care through Medicare cost contracts. Of the 18,050 Coloradans with cost contract plans, 16,075 (89 percent) of them live in rural Colorado, where few Medicare and Medicare+Choice providers operate. If Medicare cost contracts are eliminated, essentially two health care options for Medicare beneficiaries

would remain: traditional Medicare fee-for-service, which can include Medigap, and Medicare+Choice. If Medicare cost contracts are eliminated, as scheduled in 2004, then thousands of seniors will be forced into these other Medicare programs.

Basic Medicare and Medicare+Choice providers, however, are few in rural Colorado, where health care demands are great. In addition to the fact that 89 percent of Colorado's seniors with cost contract plans live in rural areas, 6,358, 35 percent, of Colorado Medicare managed care beneficiaries live in counties in which Medicare+Choice is not even available. Further, cost contract plans are more widely used across the State than are Medicare+Choice plans: Medicare+Choice is the Medicare option of beneficiaries in only 20 of Colorado's 64 counties, while Medicare cost contracts are enjoyed by seniors in 46 counties in Colorado.

In addition to accessibility, basic Medicare has fewer benefits than cost contract plans, and Medigap has higher out-of-pocket expenses than cost contract plans. Cost contract plans often provide more benefits than Medigap, such as preventive care and prescription drug benefits, and Medicare Part B deductible coverage. In addition, some cost contract plans offer one rate for older Medicare beneficiaries, while Medigap plans charge higher premiums for beneficiaries who are older.

Further, beneficiaries under Medicare cost contracts value the services cost contracting companies offer. According to a 1999 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services study, the Medicare Managed Care Consumer Assessment of Health Plans Study, CAHPS, Medicare beneficiaries gave Medicare cost contract health insurers higher ratings than non-cost contract providers. Beneficiaries noted cost contracting HMOs solved problems, provided care, and provided customer service better than the majority of non-cost contracting providers. These ratings demonstrate that cost contract insurers provide the quality service seniors want and the health benefits they need.

While the goal of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 was to provide an alternative to basic Medicare through Medicare+Choice, Medicare+Choice has not accomplished this goal in rural America. One of the objectives of President Bush and Tommy Thompson, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, is to increase in the near future Medicare+Choice enrollment. I support and have confidence in this effort. Until Medicare+Choice coverage is readily available to rural cost contract recipients Congress should extend the current cost contract sunset for an additional ten years.

Medicare beneficiaries deserve a choice in how they receive their health care. Congress should allow one of these choices to remain Medicare cost contracts. On behalf of the 298,683 U.S. and 18,050 Colorado Medicare bene-

ficiaries who obtain their health care from cost contract plans, I urge my colleagues to extend Medicare cost contract plans for ten years.

By Mr. ALLEN (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1225. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to redesign the \$1 bill so as to incorporate the preamble to the Constitution of the United States, the Bill of Rights, and a list of the Articles of the Constitution on the reverse side of such currency; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Liberty Bill Act, which directs the United States Treasury to print an abridged Constitution with the titles of salient articles and amendments of the Constitution of the United States on the back of our one dollar bill. Indeed, the redesign of a Ten, Twenty, Fifty or 100 dollar bill could incorporate this goal.

This important and innovative legislation is designed to educate, encourage and promote the understanding of the fundamental principles, the concept of self-government, free will and the protection of individual rights, of the United States for all Americans and people around the world who may use U.S. currency.

I believe that it is most fitting that the idea for the Liberty Bill Act began in a classroom in Liberty Middle School, in Ashland VA, and carried forth by students at Patrick Henry High School in Hanover County, VA, by students who wanted to do something good for this country and its democratic principles.

A little more than three years ago at Virginia's Poor Farm Park's amphitheatre, 170 students, representing Liberty Middle School, recited the abridged Constitution as part of a school project. The so-called Liberty Bill project left them with a deeper appreciation of the Constitution and how important it is that we, as Americans, fully understand our heritage and the principles of freedom, justice and liberty. And, fortunately for the rest of us, the Liberty Bill project also left them with the desire to communicate this appreciation to all Americans and to all people worldwide.

I am proud to say that these students did not simply stop their education at this juncture. Instead, they worked with their teacher, Mr. Randy Wright, to create a proposal that would serve as a reminder of our rights and responsibilities as citizens of the United States.

After careful thought and consideration, the students decided that putting the thoughts of our Constitution on the back of the dollar bill, something that passes through the hands of millions of people around the world every day, would serve as the powerful reminder of how important the Constitution is to our representative democracy.