

By Mr. HELMS (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. Con. Res. 62. A concurrent resolution congratulating Ukraine on the 10th anniversary of the restoration of its independence and supporting its full integration into the Euro-Atlantic community of democracies; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. Con. Res. 63. A concurrent resolution recognizing the important contributions of the Youth For Life: Remembering Walter Payton initiative and encouraging participation in this nationwide effort to educate young people about organ and tissue donation; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 28

At the request of Mr. GRAMM, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 28, a bill to guarantee the right of all active duty military personnel, merchant mariners, and their dependents to vote in Federal, State, and local elections.

S. 38

At the request of Mr. INOUYE, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 38, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit former members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces are entitled to travel on such aircraft.

S. 128

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 128, a bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to require periodic cost of living adjustments to the maximum amount of deposit insurance available under that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 145

At the request of Mr. THURMOND, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 145, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase to parity with other surviving spouses the basic annuity that is provided under the uniformed services Survivor Benefit Plan for surviving spouses who are at least 62 years of age, and for other purposes.

S. 170

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 170, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both military retired pay by reason of their years of military service and disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability.

S. 234

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Virginia

(Mr. ALLEN) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) were added as cosponsors of S. 234, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on telephone and other communications services.

S. 267

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 267, a bill to amend the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921, to make it unlawful for any stockyard owner, market agency, or dealer to transfer or market nonambulatory livestock, and for other purposes.

S. 275

At the request of Mr. KYL, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) were added as cosponsors of S. 275, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the Federal estate and gift taxes and the tax on generation-skipping transfers, to preserve a step up in basis of certain property acquired from a decedent, and for other purposes.

S. 345

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) 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. 370

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 370, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt agricultural bonds from State volume caps.

S. 452

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 452, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure that the Secretary of Health and Human Services provides appropriate guidance to physicians, providers of services, and ambulance providers that are attempting to properly submit claims under the medicare program to ensure that the Secretary does not target inadvertent billing errors.

S. 540

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 540, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow as a deduction in determining adjusted gross income the deduction for expenses in connection with services as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States, to allow employers a credit against income tax with respect to employees who participate in the military reserve components, and to allow a comparable credit for participating reserve component self-employed individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 554

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 554, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand medicare coverage of certain self-injected biologicals.

S. 621

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 621, a bill to authorize the American Friends of the Czech Republic to establish a memorial to honor Tomas G. Masaryk in the District of Columbia.

S. 677

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 677, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the required use of certain principal repayments on mortgage subsidy bond financing to redeem bonds, to modify the purchase price limitation under mortgage subsidy bond rules based on median family income, and for other purposes.

S. 825

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 825, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to allow workers who attain age 65 after 1981 and before 1992 to choose either lump sum payments over four years totaling \$5,000 or an improved benefit computation formula under a new 10-year rule governing the transition to the changes in benefit computation rules enacted in the Social Security Amendments of 1977, and for other purposes.

S. 972

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 972, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve electric reliability, enhance transmission infrastructure, and to facilitate access to the electric transmission grid.

S. 989

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of S. 989, a bill to prohibit racial profiling.

S. 1000

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1000, a bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to provide incentive grants to improve the quality of child care.

S. 1074

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1074, a bill to establish a commission to review the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

S. 1104

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) were added as cosponsors of S. 1104, a bill to establish objectives for negotiating, and procedures for, implementing certain trade agreements.

S. 1111

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1111, a bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to authorize the National Rural Development Partnership, and for other purposes.

S. 1119

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1119, a bill to require the Secretary of Defense to carry out a study of the extent to the coverage of members of the Selected Reserve of the Ready Reserve of the Armed Forces under health benefits plans and to submit a report on the study of Congress, and for other purposes.

S. 1209

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors 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. 1226

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING), and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1226, a bill to require the display of the POW/MIA flag at the World War II memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

S. 1265

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 1265, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to require the Attorney General to cancel the removal and adjust the status of certain aliens who were brought to the United States as children.

S. RES. 109

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 109, a resolution designating the second Sunday in the month of December as "National Children's Memorial Day" and the last Friday in the month of April as "Children's Memorial Flag Day."

S. CON. RES. 3

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Delaware

(Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 3, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued in honor of the U.S.S. Wisconsin and all those who served aboard her.

S. CON. RES. 4

At the request of Mr. NICKLES, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. CARNAHAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 4, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding housing affordability and ensuring a competitive North American market for softwood lumber.

S. CON. RES. 31

At the request of Mr. THOMPSON, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 31, concurrent resolution commanding Clear Channel Communications and the American Football Coaches Association for their dedication and efforts for protecting children by providing a vital means for locating the Nation's missing, kidnapped, and runaway children.

S. CON. RES. 59

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 59, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that there should be established a National Community Health Center Week to raise awareness of health services provided by community, migrant, public housing, and homeless health centers.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1272. A bill to assist United States veterans who were treated as slave laborers while held as prisoners of war by Japan during World War II, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today with my co-sponsor, Senator FEINSTEIN, to introduce legislation that will help a very special cadre of Americans, a group of Americans that, over 50 years ago, paid a very dear price on behalf of our country. The incredible sacrifice made by these Americans has never properly been acknowledged, and it is high time that they receive some measure of compensation for that sacrifice.

On April 9, 1942, Allied forces in the Philippines surrendered the Bataan Peninsula to the Japanese. Ten to twelve thousand American soldiers were forced to march some 60 miles in broiling heat in a deadly trek known as the Bataan Death March. Following a lengthy internment under horrific conditions, thousands of POWs were shipped to Japan in the holds of freighters known as "Hell Ships." Once in Japan, the survivors of the Bataan

Death March were joined by hundreds of other American POWs, POWs who had been captured by the Japanese in actions throughout the Pacific theater of war, at Corregidor, at Guam, at Wake Islands, and at countless other battlefields.

After arriving in Japan, many of the American POWs were forced into slave labor for private Japanese steel mills and other private companies until the end of the war. During their internment, the American POWs were subjected to torture, and to the withholding of food and medical treatment, in violation of international conventions relating to the protection of prisoners of war.

More than 50 years have passed since the atrocities occurred, yet our veterans are still waiting for accountability and justice. Unfortunately, global political and security needs of the time often overshadowed their legitimate claims for justice, and these former POWs were once again asked to sacrifice for their country. Following the end of the war, for example, our government instructed many of the POWs held by Japan not to discuss their experiences and treatment. Some were even asked to sign non-disclosure agreements. Consequently, many Americans remain unaware of the atrocities that took place and the suffering our POWs endured.

Finally, after more than 50 years, a new effort is underway to seek compensation for the POWs from the private Japanese companies which profited from their labor.

Let me say at the outset, that this is not a dispute with the Japanese people and these are not claims against the Japanese government. Rather, these are private claims against the private Japanese companies that profited from the slave labor of our American soldiers who they held as prisoners. These are the same types of claims raised by survivors of the Holocaust against the private German corporations who forced them into labor.

Here in the Senate, we have been doing what we can to help these former prisoners of war. In June of last year, the Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing on the claims being made by the former American POWs against the private Japanese companies, to determine whether the executive branch had been doing everything in its power to secure justice for these valiant men.

In the fall of last year, with the invaluable assistance of Senator FEINSTEIN, we were able to pass legislation declassifying thousands of Japanese Imperial Army records held by the U.S. government, to assist the POWs in the pursuit of their claims.

We can do even more. Recently, the State of California passed legislation extending the statute of limitations, under state law, to allow the POWs to bring monetary claims against the Japanese corporations that unlawfully employed them. Other States are contemplating such legislation.