

minimum requirements for nurse staffing in nursing facilities receiving payments under the Medicare or Medicaid Program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DAYTON:

S. 1989. A bill to provide that, for purposes of making determinations for certain trade remedies and trade adjustment assistance, imported semi-finished steel slabs and taconite pellets produced in the United States shall be considered to be articles like or directly competitive with each other; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DAYTON:

S. 1990. A bill to authorize the Economic Development Administration to make grants to producers of taconite for implementation of new technologies to increase productivity, to reduce costs, and to improve overall product quality and performance; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for Mr. KERRY (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY)):

S. 1991. A bill to require the reimbursement of members of the Armed Forces or their family members for the costs of protective body armor purchased by or on behalf of members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 1992. A bill to amend the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 to eliminate privatization of the medicare program, to improve the medicare prescription drug benefit, to repeal health savings accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 1993. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to provide a highway safety improvement program that includes incentives to States to enact primary safety belt laws; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 1994. A bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to strike the language that prohibits the Secretary of Health and Human Services from negotiating prices for prescription drugs furnished under the medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 1995. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the MA Regional Plan Stabilization Fund; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DASCHLE:

S. 1996. A bill to enhance and provide to the Oglala Sioux Tribe and Angostura Irrigation Project certain benefits of the Pick-Sloan Missouri River basin program; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BYRD (for himself, Mr. BAYH, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 1997. A bill to reinstate the safeguard measures imposed on imports of certain steel products, as in effect on December 4, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. PRYOR):

S. 1998. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to preserve the essential air service program; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DASCHLE (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. DORGAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KOHL, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 1999. A bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as added by the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, to provide for negotiation of fair prices for medicare prescription drugs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. 2000. A bill to extend the special postage stamp for breast cancer research for 2 years; considered and passed.

By Mr. INOUE (for himself and Mr. AKAKA):

S. 2001. A bill to authorize an additional permanent judgeship for the district of Hawaii, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 2002. A bill to improve and promote compliance with international intellectual property obligations relating to the Republic of Cuba, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. CLINTON:

S. 2003. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote higher quality health care and better health by strengthening health information, information infrastructure, and the use of health information by providers and patients; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 2004. A bill to permanently reenact chapter 12 of title 11, United States Code, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. COLEMAN:

S. Res. 279. A resolution recognizing the importance and contributions of sportsmen to American society, supporting the traditions and values of sportsmen, and recognizing the many economic benefits associated with outdoor sporting activities; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. Res. 280. A resolution congratulating the San Jose Earthquakes for winning the 2003 Major League Soccer Cup; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FRIST, Mr. DASCHLE, and Mr. DEWINE):

S. Res. 281. A resolution relative to the death of the Honorable Paul Simon, a former Senator from the State of Illinois; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. STEVENS:

S. Res. 282. A resolution providing the funding to assist in meeting the official expenses of a preliminary meeting relative to the formation of a United States Senate-China interparliamentary group; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. INHOPE, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. TALENT, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. KYL, and Mr. HOLLINGS):

S. Res. 283. A resolution affirming the need to protect children in the United States from indecent programming; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 59

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 59, 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. 344

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 344, a bill expressing the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians and to provide a process for the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity, and for other purposes.

S. 480

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 480, a bill to provide competitive grants for training court reporters and closed captioners to meet requirements for realtime writers under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and for other purposes.

S. 491

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 491, a bill to expand research regarding inflammatory bowel disease, and for other purposes.

S. 533

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 533, a bill to provide for a medal of appropriate design to be awarded by the President to the next of kin or other representative of those individuals killed as a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

S. 736

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 736, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to strengthen enforcement of provisions relating to animal fighting, and for other purposes.

S. 976

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 976, a bill to provide for the issuance of a coin to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement.

S. 985

At the request of Mr. GREGG, his name was added as a cosponsor of S.

985, a bill to amend the Federal Law Enforcement Pay Reform Act of 1990 to adjust the percentage differentials payable to Federal law enforcement officers in certain high-cost areas, and for other purposes.

S. 1010

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1010, a bill to enhance and further research into paralysis and to improve rehabilitation and the quality of life for persons living with paralysis and other physical disabilities.

S. 1032

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1032, a bill to provide for alternative transportation in certain federally owned or managed areas that are open to the general public.

S. 1034

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1034, a bill to repeal the sunset date on the assault weapons ban, to ban the importation of large capacity ammunition feeding devices, and for other purposes.

S. 1040

At the request of Mr. SHELBY, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1040, a bill to repeal the current Internal Revenue Code and replace it with a flat tax, thereby guaranteeing economic growth and greater fairness for all Americans.

S. 1091

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1091, a bill to provide funding for student loan repayment for public attorneys.

S. 1177

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1177, a bill to prevent tobacco smuggling, to ensure the collection of all tobacco taxes, and for other purposes.

S. 1252

At the request of Mr. DAYTON, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1252, a bill to provide benefits to domestic partners of Federal employees.

S. 1431

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1431, a bill to reauthorize the assault weapons ban, and for other purposes.

S. 1568

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 1568, a bill to amend

the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify certain provisions applicable to real estate investment trusts.

S. 1645

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1645, a bill to provide for the adjustment of status of certain foreign agricultural workers, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform the H-2A worker program under that Act, to provide a stable, legal agricultural workforce, to extend basic legal protections and better working conditions to more workers, and for other purposes.

S. 1679

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1679, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the depreciation recovery period for roof systems.

S. 1700

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1700, a bill to eliminate the substantial backlog of DNA samples collected from crime scenes and convicted offenders, to improve and expand the DNA testing capacity of Federal, State, and local crime laboratories, to increase research and development of new DNA testing technologies, to develop new training programs regarding the collection and use of DNA evidence, to provide post-conviction testing of DNA evidence to exonerate the innocent, to improve the performance of counsel in State capital cases, and for other purposes.

S. 1702

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1702, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the exclusion from gross income for employer-provided health coverage to designated plan beneficiaries of employees, and for other purposes.

S. 1736

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1736, a bill to promote simplification and fairness in the administration and collection of sales and use taxes.

S. 1748

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 1748, a bill to establish a program to award grants to improve and maintain sites honoring Presidents of the United States.

S. 1786

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1786, a bill to revise and extend the Community Services Block Grant Act, the Low-Income Home Energy Assist-

ance Act of 1981, and the Assets for Independence Act.

S. 1801

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1801, a bill to promote the economic security and safety of victims of domestic and sexual violence, and for other purposes.

S. 1807

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1807, a bill to require criminal background checks on all firearms transactions occurring at events that provide a venue for the sale, offer for sale, transfer, or exchange of firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 1830

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1830, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2004 and 2005 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

S. 1882

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1882, a bill to require that certain notifications occur whenever a query to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System reveals that a person listed in the Violent Gang and Terrorist Organization File is attempting to purchase a firearm, and for other purposes.

S. 1907

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1907, a bill to promote rural safety and improve rural law enforcement.

S. 1925

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) were added as cosponsors of S. 1925, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to establish an efficient system to enable employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, to provide for mandatory injunctions for unfair labor practices during organizing efforts, and for other purposes.

S. 1928

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. EDWARDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1928, a bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to protect consumers against predatory practices in connection with high cost mortgage transactions, to strengthen the civil remedies available to consumers under existing law, and for other purposes.

S. 1937

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Louisiana

(Mr. BREAUX), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1937, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to curtail the use of tax shelters, and for other purposes.

S. 1973

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1973, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to protect the privacy rights of subscribers to wireless communications services.

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1973, supra.

S. 1974

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1974, a bill to make improvements to the Medicare Prescriptions Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003.

S. 1979

At the request of Mr. THOMAS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1979, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prevent the fraudulent avoidance of fuel taxes.

S.J. RES. 26

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 26, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to marriage.

S. CON. RES. 81

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 81, a concurrent resolution expressing the deep concern of Congress regarding the failure of the Islamic Republic of Iran to adhere to its obligations under a safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency and the engagement by Iran in activities that appear to be designed to develop nuclear weapons.

S. RES. 54

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 54, a resolution to provide Internet access to certain Congressional documents, including certain Congressional Research Service publications, certain Senate gift reports, and Senate and Joint Committee documents.

S. RES. 202

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 202, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the genocidal Ukraine Famine of 1932-33.

S. RES. 276

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont

(Mr. JEFFORDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 276, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding fighting terror and embracing efforts to achieve Israeli-Palestinian peace.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRAHAM of Florida:

S. 1980. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require a voter-verified permanent record or hardcopy under title III of such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

• Mr. GRAHAM of Florida. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce the Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act.

In 2000, Florida grabbed the national spotlight as an unfortunate example of an electoral process gone awry. The question of who would assume our Nation's highest office became contingent on such things as whether a chad was bulging or hanging. In the aftermath of that debacle, Americans demand that Congress improve the accuracy and integrity of our electoral process. Congress responded with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), which we passed in 2002.

HAVA aimed to modernize our electoral system and there have been some positive developments. Under the law, States have replaced punch card and lever voting systems with modern computer voting machines. Modernization, however, has failed to overcome all the pitfalls seen in recent elections. In 2002, Floridians were subject to another failure of our electoral process when a software error failed to count approximately 100,000 votes.

As it now stands, computer-voting systems—including the popular touch screen models—are not mandated to include a paper record verifying voter intent. In the absence of a paper trail, confirming the accuracy of a computer voting machine is very difficult, sometimes even impossible. Further, voting irregularities, security intrusions and electronic errors can go unnoticed. We have a duty to our democracy to continue to address challenges that threaten to undermine the security and reliability of our electoral system.

The Voter Confidence & Increased Accessibility Act renews our commitment to fulfilling that obligation. It will take us one step closer to our ultimate goal: ensuring that every vote really counts. This legislation responds to a set of challenges presented by computer voting systems. It would require all voting systems produce a verifiable paper record. States would also be given assistance in meeting this standard through funds dedicated to HAVA.

The Voter Confidence & Increased Accessibility Act also stipulates several other provisions to ensure that

every vote really counts. It would prohibit the use of unreported software and wireless communication devices in all voting systems. It would also restrict electronic communications from voting machines, permitting outgoing transmissions of vote totals only.

The legislation specifies that voting systems must comply with these standards in time for the November 2004 general election. In the event that a locality is unable to get their computer voting systems compliant by this deadline, they are authorized to use a paper system as an interim measure. The Federal Government would be authorized to pay the cost of these paper systems for the November 2004 election.

The Voter Confidence & Increased Accessibility Act also requires that individuals with disabilities must be accommodated with electronic voting systems by January 1, 2006, a year earlier than mandated by HAVA. While a paper record of a disabled persons vote is not expressly required, voting systems for disabled persons must include a means for voter verification. In the event a jurisdiction cannot meet this standard, disabled voters must be given the option to utilize a temporary paper system, with the assistance of an aide of their choosing.

Finally, the legislation would require the Election Assistance Commission to conduct unannounced recounts in .5 percent of domestic jurisdictions and .5 percent of overseas jurisdictions. This way, Congress and America's voters can be assured that the election equipment is operating properly, and votes are really being counted.

Creating these new standards will help ensure that our elections accurately reflect the intent of the voting public, and put into place an election system in which Americans can have full confidence. •

By Mrs. CLINTON:

S. 1986. A bill to amend the help America Vote Act of 2002 to require voter verification and improved security for voting systems under title III of the Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the Protecting American Democracy Act of 2003, legislation that is vital to ensuring that the voting systems used in our Federal elections are as secure as possible while also ensuring that each and every voter in our Nation has an equal opportunity to verify his or her vote before that vote is cast and permanently recorded. At its core, this legislation will ensure that every vote is properly counted, ensuring the integrity of each vote, which is at the heart of our democracy.

In recent months, there has been discussion about the increasing use of electronic voting systems such as direct recording electronic systems (DREs), the first completely computerized voting systems. Computerized voting systems can have many advantages. As the Congressional Research