

vision for the institution. He takes great pride in the success of the law school, and has done so since joining the faculty in 1985. I am hopeful that his career path keeps him here in Tuscaloosa for many years to come.

The education of our young people is critical to the success of our Nation, and the University of Alabama School of Law is committed to providing students with the tools necessary to succeed. I believe the dedication of Dean Randall, the administration, faculty, and alumni has created an environment that allows students to achieve their goals and exceed their own expectations.

I extend my sincerest congratulations to the University of Alabama School of Law for its remarkable success and look forward to celebrating more achievements in the future.●

NATIONAL MINORITY CANCER AWARENESS WEEK

● Ms. LANDRIEU. In my State of Louisiana, 23,540 new cancer cases will be diagnosed this year and 9,700 members of my community will die from cancer. Children will lose mothers to breast cancer. Wives will lose husbands to prostate cancer. These tremendous losses are devastating to both families and communities. Despite all of the progress that has been made in the battle against cancer, some populations are disproportionately affected by the burden of this disease.

African Americans have the highest death rate for all cancers. Cancer is also the leading cause of death for Asian-American women. African-American, American-Indian, Alaska Native, Asian-American, and Pacific Islander men all have a lower 5-year survival rate than non-Hispanic white males. This disparity is partially attributed to the fact that preventive services are not as easily accessible for these populations. The consequences of inadequate access to preventive services and early detection are that diseases like cancer are more often diagnosed at later stages when the severity is likely to be greater and options for treatment and the odds of survival are decreased. The demographic changes expected over the next decade will only magnify the urgency of addressing these health disparities.

The future health of America as a whole will be influenced substantially by our success in improving the health of minority and other medically underserved populations. To address these disparities, Congress must provide adequate funding for screening, prevention, and treatment services for minority and underserved populations. We must continue to fund research through the National Cancer Institute that will help to provide better prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer in all populations.

There are many organizations and individuals in my State of Louisiana working tirelessly to address these

health disparities and to improve the quality of life for all Americans. Because last week was National Minority Cancer Awareness Week, I would like to take this opportunity to commend these organizations and individuals for all of their efforts. Together with my colleagues in Congress, I am confident that one day we can reduce and ultimately eliminate the disparate burden of cancer and all other diseases on minority and medically underserved communities.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

An in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 2844. To require States to hold special elections to fill vacancies in the House of Representatives not later than 45 days after the vacancy is announced by the Speaker of the House of Representatives in extraordinary circumstances.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 2348. A bill to extend the Internet Tax Freedom Act.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. DOMENICI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 1910. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out an inventory and management program for forests derived from public domain land (Rept. No. 108-254).

By Mr. DOMENICI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

H.R. 620. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide supplemental funding and other services that are necessary to assist the State of California or local educational agencies in California in providing educational services for students attending schools located within the Park (Rept. No. 108-255).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first

and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 2346. A bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to ensure that all dogs and cats used by research facilities are obtained legally; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 2347. A bill to amend the District of Columbia Access Act of 1999 to permanently authorize the public school and private school tuition assistance programs established under the Act; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 2348. A bill to extend the Internet Tax Freedom Act; read the first time.

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

S. 2349. A bill to modify the application of the antitrust laws to permit collective development and implementation of a standard contract form for playwrights for the licensing of their plays; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. DORGAN):

S.J. Res. 34. A joint resolution designating May 29, 2004, on the occasion of the dedication of the National World War II Memorial, as Remembrance of World War II Veterans Day; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 737

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 737, a bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to increase the rate of imminent danger special pay and the amount of the family separation allowance.

S. 788

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 788, a bill to enable the United States to maintain its leadership in aeronautics and aviation.

S. 846

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 846, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for premiums on mortgage insurance, and for other purposes.

S. 874

At the request of Mr. TALENT, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 874, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to include primary and secondary preventative medical strategies for children and adults with Sickle Cell Disease as medical assistance under the medicaid program, and for other purposes.

S. 955

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. TALENT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 955, a bill to provide liability protection to nonprofit volunteer pilot organizations flying for public benefit and to the pilots and staff of such organizations.

S. 971

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 971, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide individuals with disabilities and older Americans with equal access to community-based attendant services and supports, and for other purposes.

S. 976

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) were added as cosponsors of S. 976, a bill to provide for the issuance of a coin to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement.

S. 983

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 983, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants for the development and operation of research centers regarding environmental factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer.

S. 1115

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1115, a bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to reduce the health risks posed by asbestos-containing products.

S. 1335

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1335, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals a deduction for qualified long-term care insurance premiums, use of such insurance under cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements, and a credit for individuals with long-term care needs.

S. 1379

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1379, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of veterans who became disabled for life while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

S. 1380

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1380, a bill to distribute universal service support equitably throughout rural America, and for other purposes.

S. 1394

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1394, a bill to establish a demonstration project under the medicaid program to encourage the provision of

community-based services to individuals with disabilities.

S. 1645

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors 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. 1755

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1755, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to provide grants to support farm-to-cafe-teria projects.

S. 1784

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1784, a bill to eliminate the safe-harbor exception for certain packaged pseudoephedrine products used in the manufacture of methamphetamine.

S. 1820

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1820, a bill to authorize the States to implement such mechanisms as are necessary to ensure the continuity of Congress in the event that one-fourth of the members of either the House of Representatives or the Senate are killed or incapacitated.

S. 1833

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1833, a bill to improve the health of minority individuals.

S. 1900

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1900, a bill to amend the African Growth and Opportunity Act to expand certain trade benefits to eligible sub-Saharan African countries, and for other purposes.

S. 1932

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1932, a bill to provide criminal penalties for unauthorized recording of motion pictures in a motion picture exhibition facility, to provide criminal and civil penalties for unauthorized distribution of commercial prerelease copyrighted works, and for other purposes.

S. 1999

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) was added as a cospon-

sor of 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.

S. 2020

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2020, a bill to prohibit, consistent with Roe v. Wade, the interference by the government with a woman's right to choose to bear a child or terminate a pregnancy, and for other purposes.

S. 2031

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2031, a bill to authorize the States to implement such mechanisms as are necessary in a time of national crisis to ensure the continuity of the Senate in the event that a quorum of the Senate is not present due to the inability of members of the Senate to discharge the powers and duties of their office.

S. 2099

At the request of Mr. MILLER, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2099, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide entitlement to educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill for members of the Selected Reserve who aggregate more than 2 years of active duty service in any five year period, and for other purposes.

S. 2100

At the request of Mr. MILLER, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2100, a bill to amend title 10 United States Code, to increase the amounts of educational assistance for members of the Selected Reserve, and for other purposes.

S. 2236

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 2236, a bill to enhance the reliability of the electric system.

S. 2264

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2264, a bill to require a report on the conflict in Uganda, and for other purposes.

S. 2269

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2269, a bill to improve environmental enforcement and security.

S. 2292

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from New York

(Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2292, a bill to require a report on acts of anti-Semitism around the world.

S. 2302

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2302, a bill to improve access to physicians in medically underserved areas.

S. 2328

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2328, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the importation of prescription drugs, and for other purposes.

S. 2335

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2335, a bill to amend part A of title II of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to enhance teacher training and teacher preparation programs, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 23

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 23, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States providing for the event that one-fourth of the members of either the House of Representatives or the Senate are killed or incapacitated.

S.J. RES. 33

At the request of Mr. BROWNBAC, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 33, a joint resolution expressing support for freedom in Hong Kong.

S. CON. RES. 78

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. FITZGERALD) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 78, a concurrent resolution condemning the repression of the Iranian Baha'i community and calling for the emancipation of Iranian Baha'is.

S. CON. RES. 90

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 90, a concurrent resolution expressing the Sense of the Congress regarding negotiating, in the United States-Thailand Free Trade Agreement, access to the United States automobile industry.

S. CON. RES. 99

At the request of Mr. BROWNBAC, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 99, a concurrent resolution condemning the Govern-

ment of the Republic of the Sudan for its participation and complicity in the attacks against innocent civilians in the impoverished Darfur region of western Sudan.

S. RES. 269

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 269, a resolution urging the Government of Canada to end the commercial seal hunt that opened on November 15, 2003.

S. RES. 310

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 310, a resolution commemorating and acknowledging the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as law enforcement officers.

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 310, supra.

S. RES. 311

At the request of Mr. BROWNBAC, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 311, a resolution calling on the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to immediately and unconditionally release Father Thadeus Nguyen Van Ly, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 330

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 330, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should communicate to the members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries ('OPEC') cartel and non-OPEC countries that participate in the cartel of crude oil producing countries the position of the United States in favor of increasing world crude oil supplies so as to achieve stable crude oil prices.

S. RES. 332

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 332, a resolution observing the tenth anniversary of the Rwandan Genocide of 1994.

S. RES. 336

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 336, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 3 through 9, 2004.

S. RES. 342

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 342, a resolution designating April 30, 2004, as "Dia de los Ninos: Celebrating Young Americans", and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 2346. A bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to ensure that all dogs and cats used by research facilities are obtained legally; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Pet Safety and Protection Act. My legislation amends the Animal Welfare Act to ensure that all companion animals such as dogs and cats used by research facilities are obtained legally.

Over 30 years ago, Congress passed the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to set and enforce standards protecting animals used in biomedical research, bred for commercial sale, exhibited to the public, or commercially transported from inhumane treatment. Despite the well-meaning intentions of the AWA and the enforcement efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Act fails to provide reliable protection against the actions of some unethical animal dealers.

Under the AWA, Class B animal dealers are defined as individuals whose business includes the purchase, sale, or transport of animals in commerce, including dogs and cats intended for use at research facilities. To the dismay of animal welfare advocates and pet owners, some Class B, or "random source," dealers have resorted to theft and deception to collect animals for resale. In many instances these animals were found living under inhumane conditions.

As recently as August of 2003, USDA agents executed a warrant to investigate a Class B dealer from Arkansas suspected of violations of the AWA for the second time in several years. Many claims have been levied against this dealer, and approximately 125 dogs were seized by Federal agents during this week-long search. The investigation of this facility is ongoing, and an indictment is pending.

The complaint being investigated by the USDA against the dealer alleges that the respondents' veterinarian provided for them falsified official health certificates for cats and dogs, and also provided them with blank, undated, and signed health certificates. It is also alleged that the dealer failed to provide the barest standards of care, husbandry, and housing for the animals on the premises. The undercover investigation of this facility has revealed that its proprietors were aware that some of the companion animals brought to the facility were stolen, and also revealed a list of over 50 "bunchers," individuals who obtain animals and sell them to "random source" animal dealers. Bunchers have a variety of methods of obtaining companion animals, including responding to newspaper ads offering free animals, trespassing on private property to abduct the animals from yards, and house burglaries.