

Whereas, substantial funds under the Clean Michigan Initiative environment bond program remain earmarked for cleanup efforts in Michigan's 14 Areas of Concern; and

Whereas, the United States Environmental Protection Agency is reorienting its programs to expedite progress in restoring the Areas of Concern, has finalized guidelines for removing communities from the list of toxic hot spots and has committed to a new Great Lakes Strategy that calls for completing restoration and "delisting" of 10 Areas of Concern by 2010; and

Whereas, the Senate Great Lakes Conservation Task Force has called for a more aggressive state role in supporting Area of Concern cleanup efforts and greater use of federal resources toward this end: Now, therefore, but it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to fund the Great Lakes Legacy Act at its authorized level of \$54 million in Fiscal Year 2004; and be it further

Resolved, That we urge the Department of Environmental Quality, in collaboration with local advisory councils in the Areas of Concern, to utilize funds remaining in the Clean Michigan Initiative to leverage funding under the Great Lakes Legacy Act to implement sediment cleanup projects in the state's Areas of Concern; and be it further

Resolved, That we urge the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Environmental Quality to monitor and report on progress in achieving cleanup goals in the Areas of Concern, including the documentation needed to remove the affected communities from the list of Areas of Concern and to consult with and empower local advisory groups established to represent the Area of Concern communities in the development and implementation of cleanup plans; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the EPA Region 5 office, the EPA Great Lakes National Program Office, the International Joint Commission, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, and the director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Governmental Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 1245, a bill to provide for homeland security grant coordination and simplification, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-225).

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 Mrs. BOXER:

S. 2058. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to cancel certain Bureau of Land Management leases that authorize extraction of sand and gravel from the Federal mineral estate in land in Soledad Canyon, California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2059. A bill to improve the governance and regulation of mutual funds under the securities laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. REID:

S. 2060. A bill to permit certain local law enforcement officers to carry firearms on aircraft; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mr. ENSIGN):

S. 2061. A bill to improve women's health access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the delivery of obstetrical and gynecological services; read the first time.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. DODD, Mr. HATCH, Mr. KOHL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MILLER, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. SPECTER):

S. 2062. A bill to amend the procedures that apply to consideration of interstate class actions to assure fairer outcomes for class members and defendants, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 2063. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a demonstration project on priorities in the scheduling of appointments of veterans for health care through the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 11

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 11, a bill to protect patients' access to quality and affordable health care by reducing the effects of excessive liability costs.

S. 491

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

S. 595

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 595, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the required use of certain principal repayments on mortgage subsidy bond financings to redeem bonds, to modify the purchase price limitation under mortgage subsidy bond rules based on median family income, and for other purposes.

S. 664

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 664, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the research credit, to increase the rates of the alternative incremental credit, and to provide an alter-

native simplified credit for qualified research expenses.

S. 700

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 700, a bill to provide for the promotion of democracy, human rights, and rule of law in the Republic of Belarus and for the consolidation and strengthening of Belarus sovereignty and independence.

S. 736

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) were added as cosponsors 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 Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) 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. 983

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) 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. 1197

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1197, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to ensure the safety and accuracy of medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments.

S. 1298

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1298, a bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to ensure the humane slaughter of non-ambulatory livestock, and for other purposes.

S. 1558

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1558, a bill to restore religious freedoms.

S. 1587

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1587, a bill to make it a criminal act to willfully use a weapon, explosive, chemical weapon, or nuclear or radioactive material with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury to any person while on

board a passenger vessel, and for other purposes.

S. 1603

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1603, a bill the amend title 18 of the United States Code, to prohibit the unauthorized use of military certificates, and for other purposes.

S. 1793

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1793, a bill to provide for college quality, affordability, and diversity, and for other purposes.

S. 1813

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1813, a bill to prohibit profiteering and fraud relating to military action, relief, and reconstruction efforts in Iraq, and for other purposes.

S. 1843

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAU) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1843, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to provide for FamilyCare coverage for parents of enrolled children, and for other purposes.

S. 1890

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1890, a bill to require the mandatory expensing of stock options granted to executive officers, and for other purposes.

S. 1925

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor 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. 1998

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1998, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to preserve the essential air service program.

S. 2056

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) were added as cosponsors of S. 2056, a bill to increase the penalties for violations by television and radio broadcasters of the prohibitions against transmission of obscene, indecent, and profane language.

S. CON. RES. 8

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Delaware

(Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 8, a concurrent resolution designating the second week in May each year as "National Visiting Nurse Association Week."

S. CON. RES. 81

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, his name 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.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 2058. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to cancel certain Bureau of Land Management leases that authorize extraction of sand and gravel from the Federal mineral estate in land in Soledad Canyon, California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am introducing a bill today that would terminate two Bureau of Land Management mining leases in Soledad Canyon, an area that is adjacent to the city of Santa Clarita in Los Angeles County, CA.

The bill would also prohibit the issuance of any future mining leases for sand and gravel in the Soledad Canyon area that exceed the historical level of mining, which is estimated to be 285,000 tons of sand and gravel per year. Before issuing any future leases in this area, the Secretary of the Interior would be required to consult with the city of Santa Clarita and take into consideration the environmental and traffic impacts of mining. Congressman BUCK MCKEON introduced this legislation in the House of Representatives in November 2003.

Here is the problem. These two leases in Soledad Canyon would allow mining of approximately 56 million tons of sand and gravel over the next 20 years. That will mean more dust and air pollution, as well as more traffic congestion.

The residents of the city of Santa Clarita suffer from some of the worst air quality in the Nation. The mining in Soledad Canyon would occur in an area where State standards for particulate matter are already exceeded. Development of these mining leases will worsen air pollution by increasing dust and particulate matter emissions. This will lead to more respiratory problems, increased doctor and emergency room visits, more hospitalizations for cardiac and pulmonary disease, and premature deaths for area residents.

Increased traffic congestion will also result from these mining leases. Interstate 5 and State Route 14 are located in the vicinity of the mining leases, and State Route 14 is already plagued

with serious traffic problems. Development of these leases would tremendously increase truck traffic in the area, causing further congestion. It is estimated that the proposed expansion of mining in Soledad Canyon would result in 347 trucks making round trips to and from the site each day in the first 10 years, increasing to 582 trucks in the second 10 years of operation.

Due to these serious concerns over impacts on air quality and traffic congestion, there is very strong opposition to the two leases by the people of Santa Clarita and over 80 organizations in California. We need this legislation.

I believe that local health and safety concerns should not be overridden by the Federal Government. Development of these leases should not occur to the detriment of the people of Santa Clarita. I share Congressman BUCK MCKEON's interest in working with TMC/Cemex—the company that currently holds the leases—the city of Santa Clarita, and the Bureau of Land Management to find a resolution that is acceptable to all parties and that protects the health and safety of the city and its residents.

By Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2059. A bill to improve the governance and regulation of mutual funds under the securities laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce the Mutual Fund Reform Act of 2004. This legislation would make fund governance truly accountable, require genuinely transparent total fund costs, enhance comprehension and comparison of fund fees, confront trading abuses, create a culture of compliance, eliminate hidden transactions that mislead investors and drive up costs, and save billions of dollars for the 95 million Americans who invest in mutual funds. Above all, the Mutual Fund Reform Act strives to preserve the attraction of mutual funds as a flexible and investor-friendly vehicle for long-term, diversified investment.

I am pleased to be joined today by my distinguished colleagues on the Committee on Governmental Affairs, Senator CARL LEVIN and Senator SUSAN COLLINS, the committee's chairman, who are original cosponsors of this legislation. I am grateful for the extensive and important input both Senators provided in the drafting of this bill, and appreciate the invaluable perspective Senator COLLINS provided based on her first-hand experience as Maine's Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the work of a number of our colleagues in this area. Last year, I was pleased to cosponsor S. 1822, introduced by Senator DANIEL AKAKA, the Ranking Member of the Senate Governmental Affairs Subcommittee