

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 2660. A bill to provide for the monitoring of the long-term medical health of firefighters who responded to emergencies in certain disaster areas; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 2661. A bill to clarify the effects of revocation of a visa, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NICKLES (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. GREGG):

S. 2662. A bill to amend titles III and IV of the Social Security Act to improve the administration of unemployment taxes and benefits; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 2663. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment to the Farmington River and Salmon Brook in the State of Connecticut for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 2664. A bill to combat terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 2665. A bill to strengthen and enhance the prevention and prosecution of crimes using weapons of mass destruction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 2666. An original bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. DAYTON:

S. 2667. A bill to amend section 641 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 to improve the coverage of certain prescription drugs and biologicals under the medicare replacement drug demonstration project; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina:

S. 2668. A bill for the relief of Griselda Lopez Negrete; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SUNUNU (for himself, Mr. GREGG, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 2669. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to enhance the ability of direct broadcast satellite providers to offer additional local broadcast services to consumers under limited circumstances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BAUCUS:

S. 2670. A bill to provide for the continued operation of the Yacht Basin Marina, Montana, to allocate recreation fees collected at the Canyon Ferry Unit of the Pick-Sloan Missouri River Basin Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Mr. SMITH):

S. 2671. A bill to extend temporary State fiscal relief, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 2672. A bill to establish an Independent National Security Classification Board in the executive branch, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

S. 2673. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at

1001 Williams Street, Ignacio, Colorado, as the "Leonard C. Burch Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON:

S. 2674. An original bill making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 2675. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the availability of the cash method of accounting for small business, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S. 2676. A bill to amend chapter 4 of title 39, United States Code, to provide for the issuance of a semipostal stamp in order to provide funding for childhood drinking prevention and education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. FRIST) (by request):

S. 2677. A bill to implement the United States-Morocco Free Trade Agreement; to the Committee on Finance pursuant to section 2103(b)(3) of Public Law 107-210.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. Res. 406. A resolution establishing a Select Committee on Aerospace in the United States; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALLEN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. CAMPBELL, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KOHL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LUGAR, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MILLER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. REID, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SMITH, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TALENT, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 407. A resolution designating October 15, 2004, as "National Mammography Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S. Con. Res. 125. A concurrent resolution recognizing the 60th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising during World War II; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COLEMAN (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. DODD):

S. Con. Res. 126. A concurrent resolution condemning the attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in July 1994, and expressing the concern of the United States regarding the continuing, decade-long delay in the resolution of this case; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 1068

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1068, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated followup care once newborn screening has been conducted, and for other purposes.

S. 1197

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor 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. 1380

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

S. 1414

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1414, a bill to restore second amendment rights in the District of Columbia.

S. 1925

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) 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. 2253

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2253, a bill to permit young adults to perform projects to prevent fire and suppress fires, and provide disaster relief, on public land through a Healthy Forest Youth Conservation Corps.

S. 2352

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2352, a bill to prevent the slaughter of horses in and from the United States for human consumption by prohibiting the slaughter of horses for human consumption and by prohibiting the trade and transport of horseflesh and live horses intended for human consumption, and for other purposes.

S. 2461

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2461, a bill to protect the public health by providing the

Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products.

S. 2519

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2519, a bill to authorize assistance for education and health care for women and children in Iraq during the reconstruction of Iraq and thereafter, to authorize assistance for the enhancement of political participation, economic empowerment, civil society, and personal security for women in Iraq, to state the sense of Congress on the preservation and protection of the human rights of women and children in Iraq, and for other purposes.

S. 2560

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 2560, a bill to amend chapter 5 of title 17, United States Code, relating to inducement of copyright infringement, and for other purposes.

S. 2595

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2595, a bill to establish State grant programs related to assistive technology and protection and advocacy services, and for other purposes.

S. 2602

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2602, a bill to provide for a circulating quarter dollar coin program to honor the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes.

S. 2639

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2639, a bill to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act.

S. CON. RES. 119

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 119, a concurrent resolution recognizing that prevention of suicide is a compelling national priority.

S. CON. RES. 124

At the request of Mr. CORZINE, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 124, a concurrent resolution declaring genocide in Darfur, Sudan.

At the request of Mr. EDWARDS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 124, *supra*.

S. RES. 162

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 162, a resolution honoring tradeswomen.

S. RES. 271

At the request of Mr. CORZINE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 271, a resolution urging the President of the United States diplomatic corps to dissuade member states of the United Nations from supporting resolutions that unfairly castigate Israel and to promote within the United Nations General Assembly more balanced and constructive approaches to resolving conflict in the Middle East.

S. RES. 389

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 389, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to prostate cancer information.

S. RES. 401

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 401, a resolution designating the week of November 7 through November 13, 2004, as "National Veterans Awareness Week" to emphasize the need to develop educational programs regarding the contributions of veterans to the country.

S. RES. 404

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 404, a resolution designating August 9, 2004, as "Smokey Bear's 60th Anniversary".

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. BOND, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. CONRAD, and Mr. BURNS):

S. 2659. A bill to extend the temporary increase in payments under the medicare program for home health services furnished in a rural area; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I rise today to introduce the Medicare Rural Home Health Payment Fairness Act. This legislation would extend the additional payment for home health services delivered in rural areas. This additional 5 percent reimbursement is currently scheduled to sunset on April 1, 2005. This legislation would make the additional reimbursement permanent.

I note the presence of one of the strongest advocates of home health care, and that is my colleague from Missouri, Senator BOND. He has worked tirelessly to make certain that our sen-

iors and disabled citizens are able to receive the home health care they need. I am very pleased to have him as one of the key supporters of this legislation.

Home health care has become an increasingly important part of our health care system. The kinds of highly skilled and often technically complex services that our home health caregivers provide have enabled millions of our most frail and vulnerable older and disabled citizens to avoid hospitals and nursing homes and to receive health care just where they want to be—in the comfort, privacy, and security of their own homes.

I have had the great honor of accompanying several of Maine's caring home health nurses on their visits to serve their patients. I have seen firsthand the difference that they are making for Maine's elderly. I remember visiting one elderly couple who told me that it was home health care that allowed them to stay together in their very own home, rather than being separated with one of them being forced to go into a nursing home in the remaining years of their life. Another woman told me that her late husband received home health care in the months leading up to his death. That had allowed him to be treated at home and to be with his family, which is where he very much wanted to be.

Nevertheless, surveys have shown that the delivery of home health services in rural areas can be as much as 12 to 15 percent more costly because of the extra travel time required to cover long distances between patients, the higher transportation expenses, and other factors. Because of the longer travel times, rural caregivers are unable to make as many visits in a day as their urban counterparts. The executive director of Visiting Nurses of Aroostook in northern Maine where I am from tells me that her agency covers 6,600 square miles with a population of only 73,000 people. Her costs are understandably much higher than other agencies due to the long distances her staff must drive to see their clients. Moreover, her staff is obviously not able to see as many patients in a day.

Agencies in rural areas are also frequently smaller than their urban counterparts, which means that their relative costs are higher. Smaller agencies with fewer patients and fewer visits mean that fixed costs, particularly those associated with meeting regulatory requirements, are spread over a much smaller number of patients and visits, thus increasing overall the per-patient and per-visit costs. Moreover, in many rural areas, home health agencies are the primary caregivers for homebound beneficiaries with limited access to transportation. These rural patients often require more time and care than urban patients and are understandably more expensive for home health agencies to serve. If the rural extra payment is not extended, agencies may be forced to make decisions