

In closing, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in expressing our deep appreciation for the numerous contributions Commander Brennan has made on behalf of our Navy. We wish Kevin, his lovely wife Pamela and their four children continued success and the traditional naval wish of "Fair winds and following seas" as he closes out his service to the Congress and continues toward the pinnacle of Naval service command at sea! BRAVO ZULU shipmate!

ELECTRONIC DUCK STAMP ACT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, today I join several of my colleagues in support of S. 1496, the Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2005.

The Federal Duck Stamp Program has become one of the most popular and successful conservation programs ever initiated. Enacted in 1934, the Duck Stamp Act requires every waterfowl hunter to purchase a duck stamp in order to legally hunt migratory waterfowl. Through the purchase of the Federal duck stamp, sportsmen from across the country have contributed billions of dollars annually to the economy. Nearly \$2 billion of this revenue has been used for wildlife conservation.

Times have changed and I believe it is time to modernize the way sportsmen buy duck stamps. The Electronic Duck Stamp Act will change the way Montana sportsmen and hunters across the country purchase their duck stamp. This concept follows on the heels of other programs used by sportsmen to purchase their hunting licenses, permits, and conservation stamps through means of the Internet. The 24-hour access to purchase these stamps will be especially useful in Montana and other States with rural communities. The e-duck stamp will be more cost effective and hunters will be able to forego a trip to town before heading to the field.

The Electronic Duck Stamp Act requires the Secretary of the Interior conduct a 3-year pilot program under which, hopefully, Montana and 14 other States may issue the electronic stamps. The price for the stamp will remain unchanged at \$15. Stamps may be purchased over the phone or Internet giving sportsmen additional flexibility. Purchasers will receive immediate access to a verification number which will allow them to legally hunt waterfowl. This number will then eventually be replaced by an actual paper stamp.

This will be a very popular program and will benefit many American men and women who enjoy hunting waterfowl. I look forward to working with my Senate colleagues to pass this piece of legislation for not only my State of Montana but other States as well.

REPORT ENTITLED "CONTINUED PRODUCTION OF THE NAVAL PETROLEUM RESERVES BEYOND APRIL 5, 2006"—PM 25

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with section 7422(c)(2) of title 10, United States Code, I am informing you of my decision to extend the period of production of the Naval Petroleum Reserves for a period of 3 years from April 5, 2006, the expiration date of the currently authorized period of production.

Attached is a copy of the report prepared by my Administration investigating the necessity of continued production of the reserves consistent with section 7422(c)(2)(B) of title 10. In light of the findings contained in the report, I certify that continued production from the Naval Petroleum Reserves is in the national interest.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 4, 2005.

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. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1815. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to prescribe the binding oath or affirmation of renunciation and allegiance required to be naturalized as a citizen of the United States, to encourage and support the efforts of prospective citizens of the United States to become citizens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SANTORUM:

S. 1816. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the manufacturing deduction provided by the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 with respect to income attributable to domestic production activities in Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DEMINT:

S. 1817. A bill to suspend the Davis-Bacon Wage rate requirements for Federal contracts in areas declared national disasters; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mrs. CLINTON):

S. 1818. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the manufacturing deduction provided by the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 with respect to income attributable to domestic production activities in any possession of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Mr. BENNETT):

S. 1819. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase participation and savings in cash or deferred plans through automatic contribution and default investment arrangements and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. MARTINEZ):

S. Res. 264. A resolution expressing sympathy for the people of Indonesia in the aftermath of the deadly terrorist attacks in Bali on October 1, 2005; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 392

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 392, a bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of Congress, collectively, to the Tuskegee Airmen in recognition of their unique military record, which inspired revolutionary reform in the Armed Forces.

S. 438

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 438, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 492

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 492, a bill to make access to safe water and sanitation for developing countries a specific policy objective of the United States foreign assistance programs, and for other purposes.

S. 595

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 595, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the work opportunity credit and the welfare-to-work credit.

S. 695

At the request of Mr. DAYTON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 695, a bill to suspend temporarily new shipper bonding privileges.

At the request of Mr. BYRD, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 695, supra.

S. 910

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 910, a bill to require that health plans provide coverage for a minimum hospital stay for mastectomies, lumpectomies, and lymph node dissection for the treatment of breast cancer and coverage for secondary consultations.

S. 1010

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from

West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) were added as cosponsors of S. 1010, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve patient access to, and utilization of, the colorectal cancer screening benefit under the Medicare Program.

S. 1086

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. McCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1086, a bill to improve the national program to register and monitor individuals who commit crimes against children or sex offenses.

S. 1119

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1119, a bill to permit an alien to remain eligible for a diversity visa beyond the fiscal year in which the alien applied for the visa, and for other purposes.

S. 1197

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) were added as cosponsors of S. 1197, a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 1197, *supra*.

S. 1321

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1321, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on telephone and other communications.

S. 1418

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1418, a bill to enhance the adoption of a nationwide inter operable health information technology system and to improve the quality and reduce the costs of health care in the United States.

S. 1419

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1419, a bill to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media.

S. 1479

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1479, a bill to provide for the expansion of Federal efforts concerning the prevention, education, treatment, and research activities related to Lyme and other tick-borne diseases, including the establishment of a Tick-Borne Diseases Advisory Committee.

S. 1496

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1496, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a pilot program under which up to 15 States may issue electronic Federal migratory bird hunting stamps.

S. 1504

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1504, a bill to establish a market driven telecommunications marketplace, to eliminate government managed competition of existing communication service, and to provide parity between functionally equivalent services.

S. 1509

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1509, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to add non-human primates to the definition of prohibited wildlife species.

S. 1536

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1536, a bill to provide certain members of the Armed Forces with a deferment of all loan payments under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, and to provide such members with the option to reenroll in institutions of higher education after completion of their service.

S. 1538

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1538, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the incentives for the construction and renovation of public schools.

S. 1555

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1555, a bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to reform funding for the Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1720

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1720, a bill to provide enhanced penalties for crimes committed using funds appropriated for remediation of any injury or damage caused by Hurricane Katrina.

S. 1723

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1723, a bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to establish a grant program to ensure waterfront access for commercial fisherman, and for other purposes.

S. 1725

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1725, a bill to strengthen Federal leadership, provide grants, enhance outreach and guidance, and provide other support to State and local officials to enhance emergency communications capabilities, to achieve communications interoperability, to foster improved regional collaboration and coordination, to promote more efficient utilization of funding devoted to public safety communications, to promote research and development by both the public and private sectors for first responder communications, and for other purposes.

S. 1738

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1738, a bill to expand the responsibilities of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction to provide independent objective audits and investigations relating to the Federal programs for Hurricane Katrina recovery.

S. 1749

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1749, a bill to reinstate the application of the wage requirements of the Davis-Bacon Act to Federal contracts in areas affected by Hurricane Katrina.

S. 1780

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1780, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for charitable contributions by individuals and businesses, to improve the public disclosure of activities of exempt organizations, and to enhance the ability of low-income Americans to gain financial security by building assets, and for other purposes.

S. 1793

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1793, a bill to extend certain apportionments to primary airports.

S. 1799

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 1799, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that the reductions in social security benefits which are required in the case of spouses and surviving spouses who are also receiving certain government pensions shall be equal to the amount by which two-thirds of the total amount of the combined monthly benefit (before reduction) and monthly pension exceeds \$1,200, adjusted for inflation.

S. RES. 219

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr.

WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 219, a resolution designating March 8, 2006, as “Endangered Species Day”, and encouraging the people of the United States to become educated about, and aware of, threats to species, success stories in species recovery, and the opportunity to promote species conservation worldwide.

S. RES. 242

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 242, a resolution to express the sense of the Senate that the President should appoint an individual to oversee Federal funds for the Hurricane Katrina recovery, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 262

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 262, a resolution condemning the statements of former Education Secretary William J. Bennett.

AMENDMENT NO. 1883

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1883 intended to be proposed to S. 1042, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1911

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1911 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2863, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1932

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1932 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2863, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1941

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1941 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2863, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1943

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1943 proposed to H.R. 2863, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fis-

cal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1978

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1978 proposed to H.R. 2863, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1990

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1990 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2863, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1815. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to prescribe the binding oath or affirmation of renunciation and allegiance required to be naturalized as a citizen of the United States, to encourage and support the efforts of prospective citizens of the United States to become citizens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, Senator CORNYN and I are introducing legislation to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act. The legislation would be called the Strengthening American Citizenship Act.

Over the next several weeks, this body will be engaged in a debate about immigration reform. It is an essential debate which we must have in order to honor our commitment to the rule of law. I believe that real immigration reform must encompass three important steps.

First, we must secure our borders. Senators CORNYN, KYL, MCCAIN, and KENNEDY have introduced differing legislation with that goal in mind.

Second, we need to create a legal status for foreign workers and foreign students who come here. CORNYN-KYL and MCCAIN-KENNEDY also address the question of workers. Later this month, I intend to introduce legislation to ensure that our immigration system creates an appropriate legal status for and welcomes the more than 550,000 foreign students who study at our universities and who, incidentally, contribute to our high standard of living by doing so.

But there is a third step to any real immigration reform. After we secure our borders, after we create a legal status for foreigners who work here and study here, the third indispensable step is to help prospective citizens become Americans. That is why today I am introducing the Strengthening American Citizenship Act. I am pleased to be joined by Senator CORNYN in this effort.

The Strengthening American Citizenship Act helps legal immigrants who are prospective American citizens to learn our common language, our history, and our way of Government in the following ways: First, providing \$500 grants for English courses; next, allowing prospective citizens who become fluent in English, not just basic in English, but fluent in English, to apply for citizenship 1 year early; next, providing for grants to organizations to provide courses in American history and civics; authorizing the creation of a new foundation to assist in those efforts; codifying the oath of allegiance to which new citizens swear when they are naturalized; asking the Department of Homeland Security to carry out a strategy to highlight the moving ceremonies in which immigrants become American citizens; and finally, establishing an award to recognize the contributions of new citizens to our great Nation.

This bill is about fulfilling the promise of our national motto that is written right above you, Mr. President, on the Senate wall: “E Pluribus Unum,” one from many. It is in the most visible place in the Senate Chamber. As a nation of immigrants, that motto—from many, one—is very important to us. While our unique history makes us a diverse nation, we are still one American Nation. How do we do that? How do we as Americans take all of the magnificent diversity that is the United States and mold it into a single nation? We can be one nation because we are united by principles expressed in our founding documents, such as liberty, democracy, and the rule of law, and not by our multiple ancestries. We are united by our common language, English, and by our history of constantly struggling to reach the high ideals that we have set for ourselves as a nation.

Part of that American history is welcoming new immigrants to join our Nation. We are unique in the world in our attitude toward welcoming others. America is different because under our Constitution becoming an American can have nothing to do with ancestry. That is because America is an idea, not a race. An American can technically become a citizen of Japan, in rare cases, but would never be considered Japanese. But if a Japanese person wants to become a citizen of the United States, he or she must become an American.

Recently, I was privileged to witness as 99 immigrants from 46 different countries became Americans. It was on a Constitution Day ceremony. I have attended naturalization ceremonies in Nashville and across my State many times in the past. It is a moving experience that I recommend to all of my colleagues.

This naturalization ceremony a few weeks ago was a special one held at the Jefferson Memorial. The same ceremonies are held in courthouses across the country. I watched those 99 new